RMC りぼん
RIBON MASCOT COMICS

Mayonaka ni Kiss

Kiss in the Midnight

1

Mochida Aki

りぼん
RIBON MASCOT COMICS

Mayonaka ni Kiss 1

Mochida Aki

♦1772
集英社

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Mayonaka ni Kiss ①

NONO IS JUST YOUR ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN. SHE HAD LOST HER FATHER AND WAS TRYING HER BEST IN ORDER TO PROTECT HER HOME, BUT ONE DAY HER MOTHER MARRIES AN EXTREMELY RICH PRESIDENT OF A COMPANY!! NONO HAS NOW BECOME THE MISTRESS OF A HUGE MANSION...

Kiss In The Midnight

Mayonaka ni Kiss【1】

Mochida Aki

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りぼん マスコットコミックス

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Mayonaka ni Kiss【1】

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What do you have to lose?

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Mayonaka ni Kiss【1】

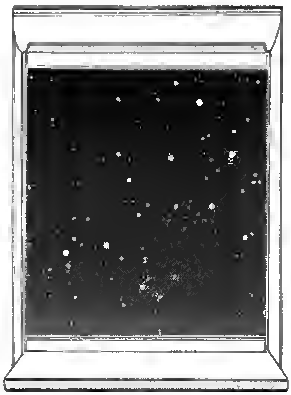
Kiss in the Midnight

Mochida Aki

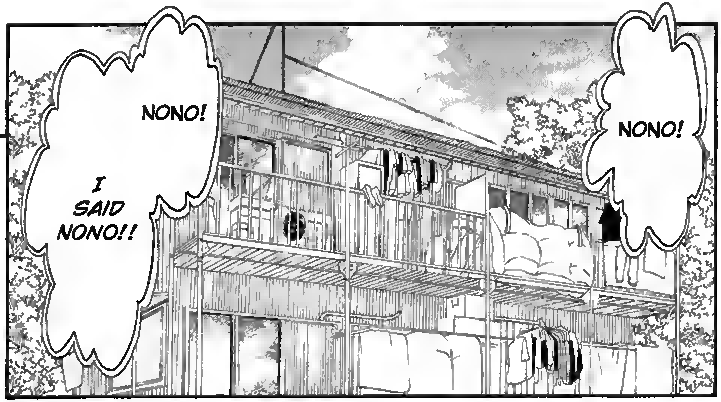
Mayonaka ni Kiss
Kiss in the Midnight
Step 1 The Breakout

Midnight

Not so long ago, before I met you,



I was nothing but sleepless nights.



I'm Nono Natori, 16 years old.
I'm in high school, year one.
I'M COMING!
DO YOU KNOW WHERE MOM'S CURLING IRON IS?
I WANT TO CURL MY HAIR!
IT'S UNDER THE IRONING BOARD!
"CLINK"
WOW!
TERIYAKI OMELET RICE!!
AND EAT YOUR BREAKFAST, OKAY?
TAKUMI!
YOUR LUNCH'S HERE, OKAY?
OKAY

* T/N In Japan the size of an apartment is measured by how may mats it may contain. DK means dining and kitchen

Kooi's
'MORNING NONO!! I MISSED YOU!!
MASAKI!
Milk
NONO!
Dong
Dong
Dong
Dong
Dong
Dong
HEY, NONO! AND MASAKI!
GOOD MORNING! HOW ARE YOU TWO DOING TODAY?
YEAH! WE'RE GOOD!
I'M REALLY SORRY NONO!!
I HAVE WORK TODAY, CAN YOU DO CLEANING DUTY FOR ME, PLEASE?
SURE NO PROBLEM!
NONO, YOU'RE SO NICE!!
This is Masaki. We're in the same class and we've been going out for two months
He's my first boyfriend

"HEY, HEY, DADDY!"
"WHEN I GROW UP, CAN I BE A PRINCESS, TOO?"
A long time ago, I loved it.
the Cinderella Story.
IT'S 'CAUSE I DON'T HATE IT.
YOU KNOW, MY DAD ONCE TOLD ME...
"YOU CAN."
"IF YOU'RE NICE TO PEOPLE, JUST LIKE CINDERELLA"
"IF YOU LIVE LIFE HONESTLY EVERY DAY, YOU WILL DEFINITELY SOMEDAY"
AND NOW
EVEN THOUGH BEING A PRINCESS IS IMPOSSIBLE, I STILL WANT TO LIVE WITH THE INTENTION TO BE KIND
SHE SAID IT! NONO'S DADDY COMPLEX!
The princess thing!
LEAVE HER ALONE!
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?
NONO'S STORY OF BRAVERY

THEY SAY THAT WHEN IT WAS TIME FOR HER FATHER'S FUNERAL, SHE DIDN'T EVEN CRY ONCE!
HUH?! REALLY?!
THE FOLLOWING DAY, ALL SHE DID
WAS CLEAN THE HOUSE AND DO LAUNDRY.
AND THEN, WHAT SHE SAID WAS...
"AS EXPECTED, IT FEELS SO GOOD WHEN THE HOUSE IS CLEAN!"
AND HER RELATIVES THAT LIVED THERE WERE ALL DUMBFOUNDED
SOUNDS LIKE NONO TO ME. WHERE'D YOU HEAR THAT STUFF?
SHE TOLD ME HERSELF, WHILE SHE WAS LAUGHING
THAT FOLLOWING DAY
GOOD MORNING!
IT'S AMAZING ISN'T IT THAT SORT OF THING
YEAH
MUST BE TOUGH...

NONO, ARE YOU DONE WITH THE CLEAN-ING?
NOISY
NONO!
NOISY
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK! LET'S GO HOME!
YEAH.
TURNS OUT THAT CLEANING EVERY-THING BY YOURSELF IS REALLY HARD...
NONO... YOU KNOW, THERE WAS SOMETHING I SORT OF WANTED THIS MONTH
COULD YOU HELP ME A LITTLE BIT?
HUH?
CHATTER
UM...
AMAZ-ING! WHAT IS IT?!
AWE-SOMEEE!
IT'S A FOREIGN CAR!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE IN REAL LIFE BEFORE!
I want to touch it!
BUT WHAT'S IT DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?

IT'S THE MAFIA!
THE MAFIA!
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
H-
HEY! DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE THOSE PEOPLE ARE HEADING THIS WAY?
HALTING
UH...
UH...
MISTRESS NONO NATORI?

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU
?
?
?!
PLEASE COME WITH ME.
HUH?!
being dragged
HUH? WAIT A MINUTE?
MASAKI!
NO-NO!
WHAT EXACTLY HAVE YOU DONE?!
W-W-W-WAIT!
WH-WHERE EXACTLY ARE YOU TAKING ME?
ENGINE STARTING
YOU'LL KNOW ONCE WE GET THERE.
AND WHERE EXACTLY IS THAT?!
BRAKE
OF COURSE,
TO THE ICHIJOU RESIDENCE.

T-THIS IS—
PLEASE, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
W-
W-W-WH-WHAT IS THIS PLACE?!
There's no doubt it is a castle
THIS IS THE HOME OF MASTER HAYATO ICHIJOU, THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE ICHIJOU GROUP
BY CHANCE, WHEN YOU SAY ICHIJOU GROUP, DO YOU MEAN THAT FAMOUS HOTEL...?!
THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S A REAAA-ALLY FAMOUS COMPANY.
IN TOTAL, THE ASSETS ARE NINE BILLION DOLLARS. THERE ARE 120 HOTELS LOCATED OVER THE WORLD, IN PLACES LIKE GERMANY, LA, PARIS, AND LONDON.
IT'S A LARGE HOTEL CHAIN

1

welcome to MIDNIGHT KISS

Since this manga's about rich people I thought I'd try dressing up myself too!

Hello!! It is I Mochida Ashi! I'm so glad this work of mine turned into a comic!! Thank you so much for buying this manga!

Well a lot of people are saying "Wow what an erotic title!" but the meaning of this is really just the nuance like "Love whoever you are even before the break of dawn" type of thing

People long for things they don't have They start thinking like "If I could only do this" "If I can only have that..." kind of things

So I tried to refine the subject thoroughly. Because now I'll try to let shine with all my might the me in this work and someday my ideals too.

This is the concept I intended to draw

I wanted to hurry up and go home so I could prepare dinner,
but in this case
WHAT'S GOING ON
THIS WAY PLEASE
NINE-
NINE BIL-LION DOL-LARS?!
I DON'T THINK I CAN GUAR-ANTEE THAT
Can't you look your own daugh-ter in the eyes?
ACTUALLY, NONO... SORRY FOR KEEPING QUIET ABOUT IT, BUT THE TRUTH IS... DON'T BE MAD OKAY!
OH, NONO!
yahoo ♪
HEY, YOU GUYS !!

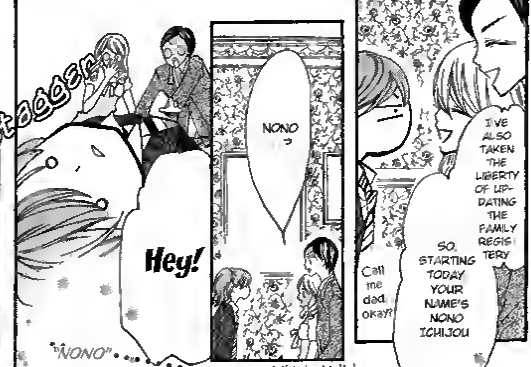
I'VE...
FALLEN IN LOVE!!
IT WAS JUST A PURE LOVE AT FIRST.
BUT IT TURNS OUT, THE PERSON I FELL FOR...
IS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICHIJOU GROUP!
36 years old
AYAME, I'LL CONTINUE FROM HERE.
NICE TO MEET YOU, NONO.
I'M HAYATO ICHIJOU.
WE got married today!

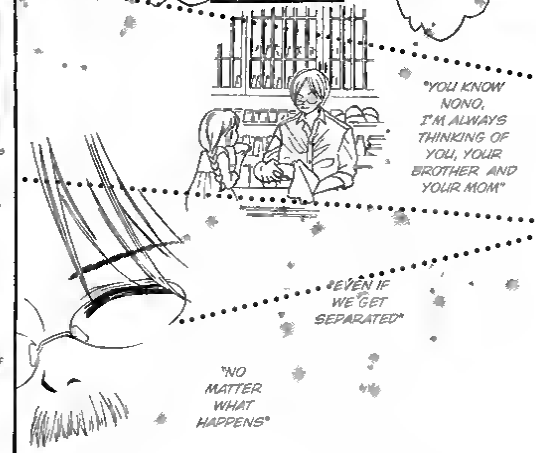
2

Nono Ichijo

During the publication arrangements of the series Vividly arguing with editor about the meaning of "lady."

(pln "Yankee" is what the Japanese call delinquent girls)


staaeeg
Hey!
NONO
Call me dad, okay?
SO, STARTING TODAY YOUR NAME'S NONO ICHIJOU
I'VE ALSO TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF UP-DATING THE FAMILY REGISTERY



STR
NNN
AND MOM STARTED TALKING ABOUT HER SECOND MAR-RIAGE...
I WAS TAKEN TO THE ICHIJOU GROUP'S PRESIDENT'S HOUSE...
OH THAT'S RIGHT
Ahh!
Ahhh! What's with this room?!
rustle
opens eyes

AAHHHH
munch
munch
...
SORRY FOR SUR-PRISING YOU, NONO
LOOKS LIKE HE WAS SLEEP-WALKING AND JUST ENDED UP IN YOUR ROOM.
THAT and he's just eating marsh-mal-lows
chew
chew
THIS IS KA-ZUO-MI HE'S AN ONLY CHILD
HE'S THE SAME AGE AS YOU NONO
What's with this guy
He's weird
SO! NOW THAT WE ALL KNOW EACH OTHER,
LET'S ALL GET ALONG FROM NOW ON!!

NO, NO, NO!
"GET ALONG," YOU SAY?!
EVEN THOUGH WE HAVEN'T COME TO A DECISION?!
RIGHT?
HEY TAKUMI, YOU DON'T LIKE THIS EITHER, RIGHT?! ISN'T IT TOO EARLY FOR MOM TO GET REMARRIED?!
NOT REALLY...
ISN'T IT A GOOD THING?
HE'S A GOOD PERSON (NOT TO MENTION HE'S RICH)
I APPROVE...
Shrug
WHAT A COLD PERSON!
You've already made a person they assess mentally
what's this?
Could it be... the only person against this is me?
And mom looks really happy...
If I just say "okay," then everyone...
PLEA...
PLEASED
TO MEET YOU...

Thank you, Nono!!
With this, we're a family!!
...
HUH?
OMI, ARE YOU GOING TO BED?
WELL, IT IS MIDNIGHT RIGHT NOW, ISN'T IT?
You're ugly.
?

WHAAAT!
Wha-
W-
Wh-
MISTRESS NONO,
chirp
MISTRESS NONO,
IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP
chirp
opens eyes
—NN
HUH?
Ahhh!
WHEN DID I FALL ASLEEP?!
GRAB
WE'LL HELP YOU GET READY

HUH...?!
I KNOW IT'S SUDDEN
BUT SINCE TODAY'S YOUR WELCOME PARTY...
P-P-P-PARTY?!
I CAN'T! I'VE GOT WORK TODAY...
and I have school, too
OHH
AT THE YAKINIKU STORE IN FRONT OF THE STATION, RIGHT?
AS FOR THAT, ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE
SO THAT YOU WILL LEAVE YOUR JOB...
HUH?!
WHAT? WHY ARE YOU DOING THINGS AS YOU WISH?
AND THIS MONTH WE'RE SORT OF TIGHT ON MONEY
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.
PEOPLE THAT ARE PART OF THE ICHIJOU FAMILY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE PART-TIME JOBS.
AND AS FOR THAT APARTMENT, WE ALREADY EXTRACTED YOU.

What kind of me will I become ...?
NONO-SAMA, YOU'VE GOT A GORGEOUS FIGURE
IF YOU WEREN'T WEARING A SCHOOL UNIFORM LIKE THIS AND WORE A DRESS INSTEAD,
YOU'D DEFINITELY LOOK LIKE A YOUNG WOMAN
What is this?
Why am I here right now in a place like this?
From now on...

WHAT'S THIS?
ONLY THE MASTER'S CLOSEST FRIENDS ARE INVITED HERE
SO, PLEASE ENJOY YOURSELF
...
SUCH LONG LEGS!
IS SHE A MODEL OR SOMETHING?
THEY SAY THEY'RE COMMONERS, BUT, IF YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE THEY ARE...
IS THAT THE PRINCESS EVERYONE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT?
WELL, SHE'S GOT REALLY GOOD FASHION SENSE, DOESN'T SHE?
About to explode
A... ANYWAYS, I SHOULD GO LOOK FOR MOM AND TAKUMI
Sparkle...

AJUU SAEGUSA.
THIS IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE SAEGUSA HOUSEHOLD,
MISTRESS,
MISTRESS NONO!
...
I'M SAEGUSA
THE AURA OF A GENUINE MISTRESS
Wow!
HUH ...?
WHAT EVERYONE'S SAYING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY?
HEY, DO YOU KNOW?
W... WOW ...

SAILS BY
THAT'S WHAT EVERY-BODY'S SAYING
"THEY'RE A COM-MONER FAMILY"
"IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THEY'RE ONLY AIMING FOR MONEY"
TRUST ME,
Thump
Thump
...
NONO-SAMA
HUH?
Ba-Dump
MUR MUR
MUR MUR
...
YOUR FRIENDS CAME TO SEE YOU, SO
...
Ba-Dump

TAP TAP TAP
Masaki!
I MISSED YOU! BUT WHY SO SUDDENLY?
Everyone's here too
WELL... COZ WE HEARD ABOUT IT FROM SENSEI TODAY.
SENSEI SAID THAT YOUR MOM GOT MARRIED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ICHIJOU GROUP!
That's awesome! Seriously!!
AH...
WELL, YEAH, BUT...
MASAKI.
That's soo bad!
YOU KNOW, JUST ASK YOUR NEW FATHER FOR A LITTLE FAVOR...
REMEMBER THAT MONEY WE WERE TALKING ABOUT YESTERDAY?
YOU COULD JUST PASS IT TO ME RIGHT?

It's a chandelier!
But seriously this house is gigantic!
AH
thump
thump
HURRY UP, OKAY!
SORRY I-I SORT OF HAVE TO GO BACK SOON, SO...
Ahh!!
IMPACT
thump
My head's pounding.
I can't think
thump
O...
OW...
clearly hurt
SHARP PAIN

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL ROOM...
... HOW AMAZING...
Meow
Meow
CHIRUP!
WHERE WERE YOU?!
DON'T SNEAK AWAY FROM YOUR OWN WELCOME PARTY!
BUT YOU'RE SAFE... I'M GLAD
Meow

HUH?
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THERE?
YOU DON'T GET IT?
THIS ISN'T A PLACE WHERE COMMONERS LIKE YOUR FAMILY BELONG!
RICH PEOPLE DESPISE COMMONERS.
COMMONERS ENVY THE RICH AND THEY USE THEM TO BECOME RICH, TOO.
IT'D BE EMBARRASSING FOR THE THREE OF YOU, SO HURRY UP AND LEAVE
HIT

JUST WHO DO YOU GUYS THINK YOU ARE?!
COM-MONERS, COMMON-ERS...
MY MOM AND I WORK EVERY SINGLE DAY!
WE CAN'T AFFORD ANY LUXU-RIES,
BUT DON'T YOU MAKE FUN OF THE WAY WE LIVE!
You can say whatever you want about me!
BUT IF YOU SAY ANYTHING ABOUT MY FAMILY, I WON'T FORGIVE YOU!!

I wanted to be like Cinderella.
Every single day, be kind to others
I tried my best every day.
Someday, I wanted a happy ending
But...
"NONO, YOU'RE SOO NICE!"
"DO YOU THINK YOU COULD HELP ME OUT?"
"SORRY, FOR NOT TELLING YOU..."
I wonder if I've made a mistake somewhere...?
WHEN MY DAD DIED
IT WASN'T JUST ME WHO WAS IN PAIN.
MOM AND TAKUMI WERE, TOO.
SO
I THOUGHT,
AS LONG AS EVERYONE'S HAPPY, I SHOULD JUST AGREE TO THE SECOND MARRIAGE AS WELL..

KRAEN
THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU UGLY!
YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING BACK TO SAEGUSA OR EVEN TO YOUR FRIENDS
SINCE YESTERDAY, YOU WERE ONLY CONCERNED ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE
"AS LONG AS EVERYONE'S HAPPY." YOU SAY

PEOPLE WHO CAN'T LOVE THEM-SELVES ARE THE UGLIEST.
Osmoothly
DID YOU KNOW?
THE WIFE OF THE FOUNDER OF THE ICHIJOU GROUP WAS A COMMONER
HOW INTEREST-ING.
IT'S THE FIRST TIME A GIRL HAS DARED TO FIGHT BACK AT ME
JEEZ

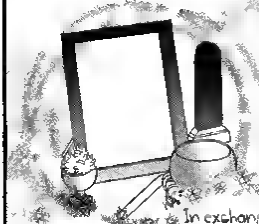
SHE WAS ICHIJOU'S "QUEEN."
WITHIN MONTHS, SHE WAS ON THE ROAD TO WORK
IN JUST SIX MONTHS, SHE BECAME THE TOP LADY OF THE HIGH-CLASS SOCIETY
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WORLD OF HIGH-CLASS SOCIETY?
AT THE TOP,
YOU CAN USE BOTH POSITION AND HONOR, WHICHEVER WAY YOU PLEASE.
BECOME A QUEEN FITTING ONLY FOR YOU.

IF YOU CAN USE YOUR WILL-POWER
FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT.
Smooth
HOLD ON!
IMPACT
What the heck?
What's up with this guy?
And yet, some-how I
Creak

Somehow, I want his hand to lead me.
BANG
NONO, KAZUOMI, WHERE DID YOU TWO GO?!
It's Nono!
OH!
NONO!
MASAKI, EVERYONE...
WELL, THIS HOUSE IS SERIOUSLY RICH! I GOT THE JITTERS!
GUESS I CAN'T BE SEPARATED FROM YOU EVEN MORE NOW, HUH?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! IF WE'RE TROUBLED OR SOMETHING, WE'LL GO TO NONO RIGHT AWAY!

WE'VE GOTTEN USED TO ALWAYS GOING TO NONO FOR HELP, HAVEN'T WE?
She's really sincere!
Well...
We always go to Nono for help, as well!
BY THE WAY NONO'S MOM IS REALLY PRETTY!
YOU'RE MORE STYLISH THAN NONO, TOO!
THAT'S BECAUSE IN THE MORNING MY OLDER SISTER ONLY TAKES 5 MINUTES TO GET READY
Huh? Seriously, 5 minutes!!
What is she a boy?
I got it!
MENACING
MENACING
HM?
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
P.1
... YOU GUYS,
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELVES, DAMMIT!

"I've started to like someone else."
"Can I fall in love with someone?"
SAY THOSE TO DAD!
Surprised
Ma-saki!!
Y-
Yeah?!
Turns Red
If you think you're going to get money from then kissing up to someone of social standing...
THINK AGAIN!
AND YOU TWO!
THERE'S A LIMIT TO ASKING FAVORS FROM PEOPLE, TOO, YOU KNOW?!
TAK-UMI!
JUST WHO DO YOU THINK MAKES THE FOOD YOU EAT EVERY MORNING?!
Drip
NO-NONO
SOR-RY, I
YOU, TOO!
THE ONE YOU SHOULD BE SAYING SORRY TO
ISN'T ME!!



We lost dad one year ago

In exchange for money, we sold the house the four of us lived in

My mom, who doesn't like to pray for dad at the altar

It was as if, every day, memories of dad were getting further and further away.

I can't help but feel lonely.

T/N Buddhist Altar Every single house here in Japan has altars for the dead family members. They use this altar for lighting incense, offering food and drink and praying for the souls instead of visiting the cemetery.

IF YOU CAN SAY "INSENSITIVE" SO SIMPLY LIKE THAT,
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S INSENSITIVE!
THE REASON WHY
NONO DIDN'T EVEN CRY WHEN SHE LOST HER FATHER
WASN'T BECAUSE SHE WAS OKAY WITH IT
What...? This guy...
IT WAS BECAUSE SHE WANTED HER FAMILY TO RECOVER QUICKLY SO THAT THEY COULD BE HAPPY AGAIN.
IT WAS BECAUSE SHE WANTED EVERYONE
TO SMILE WHOLEHEARTEDLY THAT SHE SMILED FIRST.
Why's he saying something like that...?

The day after dad's funeral, I washed all the clothing in the house.
AS EXPECTED, IT FEELS GOOD TO CLEAN THE HOUSE!
wailing
SHE HASN'T CRIED AT ALL, NOT EVEN ONE TEAR
wailing
THAT CHILD STILL DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THIS ISSUE...
EVEN THOUGH AYAME AND TAKUMI HAVEN'T RECOVERED YET
Splash
TO HAVE RECOVERED SO FAST LIKE THAT... POOR EIICHI.

I was crying, too.
And, hiding in the pure white laundry,
I tuned out the sound of the radio from the neighbor's house
Truthfully, as the fragrance of soap floated towards the clear sky,

Ever since that day,
the person who had stopped moving the most was me.
Daddy,
Daddy!
glint
But,
Now, I have to start moving again,
With the same precious memories of my father. Because the future is important.
WELL NOW,
I'VE BECOME A WOMAN OF HIGH-CLASS SOCIETY.

You are just like a shooting star

that came to visit in the middle of the boredom of night.

End of Chapter 1

September! How will the new school term be? It's time for culture festivals! They're progressing, aren't they? That's the power of youth!
I've been thinking of going for a walk and watching the autumn leaves
scribble scribble scribble
Sis writing
KOKO
Leo
Everyone how are you?
It's me Aki Maehida! Hello!
Janza ea-ani ya-ko!
It's Swahili
I just returned from my sister's house where I wrote this manuscript
The houses ♥ cute little fellows
During that time, some serious shortages of vegetable harvest had happened.
announcer
"Let's listen to the opinion of citizens who visited the shopping district"
sulk
Mike
By the way, even though I usually watch TV only slightly
yaay
I watched the news a while ago
I only watch TV about once every couple of months Ahaha!
Brisk movement
30-something man
"Oh, I'm rich, so it doesn't make any difference."
Child
hesitantly
"I don't like vegetables much, so I guess I'm diet."
housewife
"What do you think about the rising of prices on vegetables?"
"I'm so troubled"
Sometimes pre-destined meetings like this happen so I now watch occasionally.
END
Wait a sec!!
I want to see more of that guy!!
Hey!!!
spilled
"and now the sports."
" that was the voice of people."

Mayonaka ni Kiss

by Mochida Aki

Vol. 1 Chapter 1

Scanner: Sybie

Translators: Yi and Chache

Proofreader: Recalcitrant

Editor: KissMeKudesai

QC-er: hkgaines

http://www.esthetique-realm.net

Mayonaka ni Kiss

by Mochida Aki

Vol.1 Chapter 2

Scanner: Sylvie
Translator: Alice
Proofreader: hkgaines
Editor: Blue Rose
Qc'er: Katana1765
Special Thanks to Chache

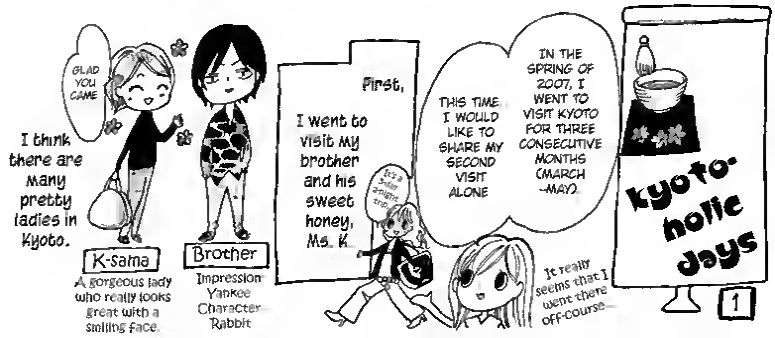
http://www.esthetique-realm.net

Mayonaka ni Kiss
Kiss in the Midnight
Step 2: The Summer Darjeeling

I will

I will become the best woman in high-class society

My excitement from yesterday still hasn't worn off yet. .


kyoto-holic days
IN THE SPRING OF 2007, I WENT TO KYOTO FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS (MARCH -MAY).
THIS TIME I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE MY SECOND VISIT ALONE
It really seems that I went there off-course.
First,
I went to visit my brother and his sweet honey, Ms. K.
Isn't she pretty?
GLAD YOU CAME
I think there are many pretty ladies in Kyoto.
K-sama
A gorgeous lady who really looks great with a smiling face.
Brother
Impression Yankee Character Rabbit

A new day has come.
I
I'LL BE IN TROUBLE NONO-SAMA!
HOW SO?
AT LEAST LET ME HELP CLEAN UP AFTER BREAKFAST...
TUG
TUG
MASTER WILL SCOLD ME...
NONSENSE. IT'S HIM. THERE'S NO WAY HE'D BE MAD.
I'LL BE IN TROU BLE...
KISS
KISS
Him >
HEY.
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!

6
GLANCE
GULP
WH-
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
CHEW
CHEW
RATTLE
FLAP
FLAP
ANYWAY
THESE ARE BOOKS ON ETIQUETTE
Wow, it's amazing
He's wearing a uniform from N High School. .
That's the school where the sons of politicians and corporations attend . . .
Why is he always eating marshmallows ?

RISE
HEY YOU BAS-TARD
Why you
As if I'd Just sit and listen
THE WAY YOU ARE NOW
YOUR LOOKS, THE WAY YOU TALK AND ACT
ARE FAR FROM GRACEFUL
DO EVERYTHING ACCORDING TO THIS BOOK
AND YOU'LL DO FINE IN PUBLIC
PLUS STARTING TODAY, YOU'LL BE HAVING LESSONS.
THE DAY AFTER TOMOR-ROW,
BAM
THERE'S AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR HOTEL ICHIJOU
IT'LL BE VERY DIF-FERENT FROM YESTERDAY'S WELCOME PARTY.
GUESTS
WILL BE MOSTLY DIRECTORS FROM THE HEADQUAR-TERS

KNOCK
KNOCK
EXCUSE ME
Frozen because of the size of the task
..!
AH,
THANK YOU
KAZUOMI-SAMA, NONO-SAMA, I'VE BROUGHT TEA
Ahhh~
DELICIOUS
IN THIS HOUSE EVEN THE DARJEELINGS' FIRST FLUSH* COMES OUT THIS EASILY
Bubbly
*Author's Note: "First flush" is the first tea picked in spring. It doesn't produce much so it's very expensive.
YEAH
YOU'RE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE
WE USED TO OWN A TEA SHOP
OF THE ICHIJOU FAMILY
SHOW THEM THE ELEGANT DAUGHTER
THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW WILL BE YOUR DEBUT.

FIRST FLUSH IS THE "QUEEN OF TEA."
OUT OF ALL KINDS OF TEA, IT'S STILL FIRST CLASS.
I SEE...
THEN THIS TEA IS THE MOST SUITABLE RIGHT NOW
NONO-SAMA, IT'S TIME FOR SCHOOL
Nono-chan, Have a safe trip
THIS WAY, PLEASE
Schedule
WELL,
LOADED
THE AFTER-SCHOOL LESSONS TODAY ARE—
ARGH!
TABLE MANNERS, ENGLISH, AND WALKING?!
IT'S THE BEST CHOICE OF TEA FOR SETTING THE MOOD BEFORE A CHALLENGE

I'D SAY, YOU'RE ONE LUCKY GIRL.
...HUH?
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT A POOR, ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL GIRL LIKE YOU WOULD BECOME A YOUNG LADY FROM A RICH FAMILY?
WELL, TO BE HONEST, UNTIL YESTER-DAY,
I HAD NO INTEREST IN THE NEW FAMILY.
SHIFT
YOU...
YOU'RE THE SAME PERSON FROM YESTER-DAY, RIGHT?!
Your character is different!
HUH?
YEAH.
HOWEVER, SINCE YOUNG MASTER KAZUOMI ACKNOWL-EDGED YOU,
THINGS WILL BE VERY DIFFERENT
BRAKE
IT'S RARE FOR THAT POKER FACE
TO TAKE INTEREST IN SOME-ONE
Stir
OCHIAI NARUMI.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU

There are a lot of strange people in this house...
HA
HA.
H-
HAS HE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT?
YOU MEAN PRINCE OMI?
WELL, YES
HE'S THE SON OF PRESIDENT HAYATO
IT'S OBVIOUS HE'S GOING TO TAKE OVER.
HE'S BEEN TAUGHT TO BE LIKE ONE SINCE HE WAS SMALL
YOU KNOW, WHEN HE WAS SIX,
A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO HAD CONTRACTS WITH THE ICHIJOU GROUP
CAME TO SUCK UP TO HIM.
HE TOLD THEM,
"If it's about the contract,
I think it's faster for you to go talk to my father's secretary than me."
What kind of 6 year-old was he?
He's really stiff, eh?
WELL,
IT'S NO WONDER

3
Kazuomi Ichijo
KUROSAKI MINORI-SAN TOOK ME TO ORANGE RANGE'S* CONCERT!
AWE-SOME!
AS EXPECTED FROM ORANGE RANGE
Mimohon** is really fit to be called an Orange Range Fanatic
I LIKE THEIR SONG CALLED
UHMM. TRIUMPHANT?
DO YOU MEAN "LOCOMOTION"?
That's embarrassing
Sprinkles leaves with a water gun.
KYAA~
YAMATO IS THE CLIMAX!!
SO COOL~
The concert was really awesome!
Thank you so much Mimohon
Became a real fan ← after that
I'm listening to it even while I'm working
HOWEVER WHEN PRINCE WAS 5 YEARS OLD, BEFORE MS. MIHO... I MEAN THE PRESIDENT'S PREVIOUS WIFE DIED
HE HONESTLY SEEMED LIKE A NORMAL KID
SINCE HE WAS SMALL
HE WAS SURROUNDED BY COMPLIMENTS AND JEALOUSY
THE ENVIRONMENT DIDN'T LET HIM BE A KID
then you're the one who's insensitive!
If you can say "insensitive" so simply like that,
has experienced the same feelings that I have...
Maybe that person

* T/N Orange Range is a Japanese band.
** T/N Mimohon is Minori san's nickname.

NO NONO IS
SCARY AURA
SHOWING HER AURA...
HEY, MASAKI GO CHEER HER UP
AH! NONO!
GOOD MORNING!
What a coincidence!
AH! I DROPPED A DIME!
CRUSH
MASAKI,
LET'S BREAK UP
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS MY FAULT
I BLAMED THE FACT THAT I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING ON OTHERS
I WANT TO TRAIN MYSELF
SO IN ORDER TO DO THAT I WANT TO BE ALONE
O, OKAY
NONO
I'M SORRY THAT WE DEPENDED ON YOU TOO MUCH !
FORGIVE US
SATOMI, SACHI IT'S OKAY
Waii

Silence
Oh!
IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO FOR YOU?
EH
REALLY ?!
THEN
HELP ME MEMORIZE THESE!
baa
IF I DON'T HURRY, I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE TABLE MANNERS LESSON!
Jumping off the hill of the school
SHOCK
AH!
AH, IT'S SUNNY...
I GUESS THE SUN ROSE HIGHER

Saegusa-san!
YOU'RE FROM YESTERDAY'S PARTY! WELL, IT'S NATURAL THAT YOU'D GO TO SCHOOL!
AND THAT UNIFORM IS FROM SL GIRLS' SCHOOL?!
It's a super famous school
THIS IS UNEXPECTED OF A LADY FROM A RICH FAMILY!
I THOUGHT THAT THEY'D GO TO SCHOOL BY CAR OR SOMETHING
IT'S CLOSE TO MY HOUSE SO I MADE MYSELF WALK...
I HEARD YOU'RE TRYING TO BE THE "QUEEN"?
THE RUMOR IS THAT ICHIJOU KAZUOMI HAS TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
OR ELSE
I'D BE IN THE "BOX" EVERYDAY
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
ORDINARY PEOPLE SUDDENLY JUMPING INTO THE ICHIJOU FAMILY
AND ARE NOW TRYING TO GET TO THE TOP?
WHAT A JOKE.

I SAY!
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME AS IF I'M YOUR ENEMY?!
ARE THE UPPER CLASS PEOPLE THAT GREAT?!
WE'RE NOT GREAT...
IT'S JUST THAT WE HAVE TO BE GREAT
WE'VE HAD TO BE FIRST-CLASS PEOPLE SINCE BIRTH
TO MEET THE EXPECTATIONS OF OTHERS
BOTH KAZUOMI AND I
HAVE FOUGHT THAT PRESSURE SINCE WE WERE LITTLE

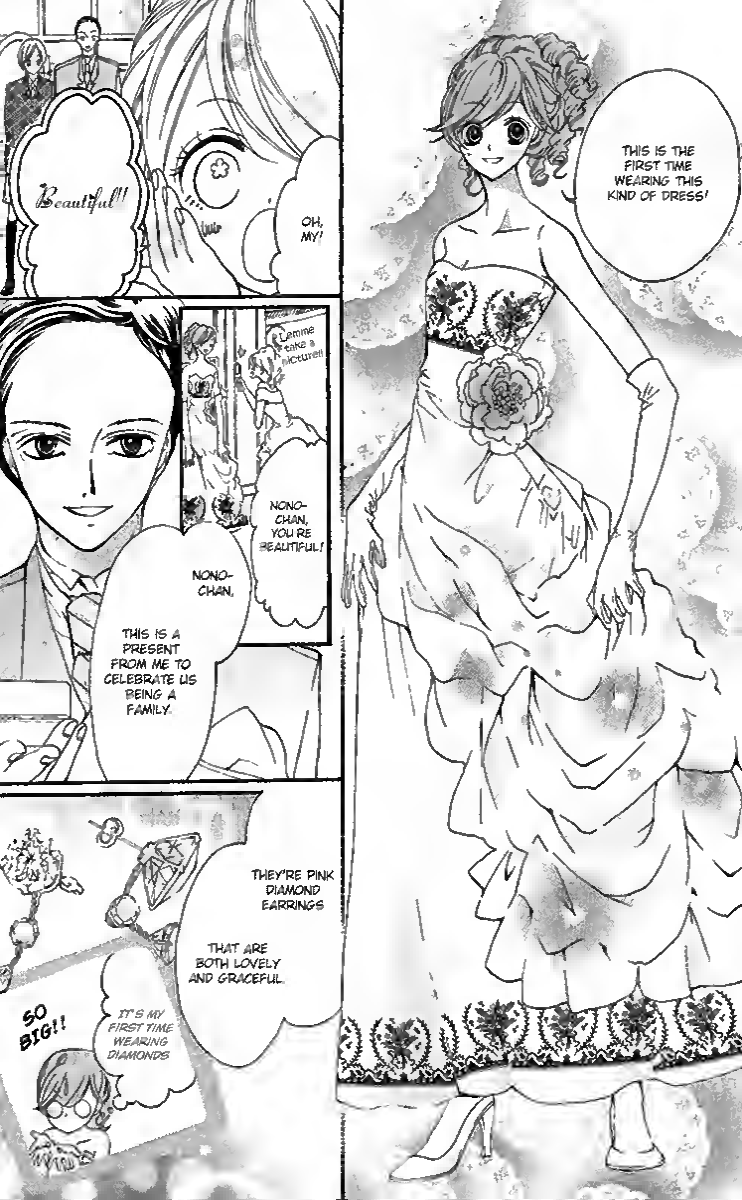
DON'T MAKE IT THE SAME AS YOUR LOW-CLASS HEART
Ugh
I FEEL SO TIRED AFTER BEING SCOLDED
Chew
Chew
YES,
I'M SORRY ...
You don't have to eat all of them! (when you're pr...cucing)
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING UNTIL NOW?!
SMACK!
IT'S WRONG!
IF YOU'VE BEEN TAUGHT LIKE THAT EVER SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE,
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU'LL BE MORE MATURE THAN YOU LOOK.
AFTER THAT, I'LL BE HARDER ON YOU! THE PARTY IS THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW!
SIGH. IT'S OKAY, REST FOR 10 MINUTES!

4
Saegusa
Don't make it the same as your low-class heart.
However, it's not a duty like it is for those two
Until recently, I was a normal high school girl, who is now suddenly aiming to be first-class.
I wonder why that person invited me into the high-class world.
ASABUKI MARI-CHAN TOOK ME TO KODA KUMI'S* CONCERT!
It feels like I AM ALSO BEING PRAISED!
When people praise Kuu-chan,
Maripple** is also fit to be called a Koda Kumi Fanatic
Whenever I'm at Mari-chan's place, I always listen to Kuu-chan's songs and now, I've also become a fan.
I'm easy to influence
THANK YOU~!
I'M GOING TO BUY HER CD!
Smile
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
Kuu-chan's concert was really great! Her concert shows how great of a person she is.
She really looks beautiful in her stage
It's before our dead line so on our way home, we're both silent..
Maripple
Me
Maripple, thank you very much!
*Koda Kumi is a Japanese singer. Kuu-chan is her nickname.
**Maripple, Mari-chan and Maripo are Asabuki Mari's nicknames.

SO, I HEARD THAT YOU'RE GETTING ALONG WITH NONO-CHAN EH?
SLIDE
YOU FELL FOR HER "HUMANITY", RIGHT?
CLICK
Rush~
I KNOW.
RATHER THAN GETTING ALONG, IT'S MORE OF A...
FOR A LONG TIME NOW, THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GREEDY.
ALMOST NONE OF THEM
HAVE EVER THOUGHT OF OTHERS BEFORE THEM-SELVES.

But if you say anything about my family, I won't forgive you!!!
You can say whatever you want about me!
WELL FROM MY POINT OF VIEW,
YOU'RE ALSO BAD AT LOVING YOURSELF
IT'S MY FAULT FOR PUTTING YOU IN A HARSH ENVIRONMENT, BUT SAME AS NONO,
LOVE YOURSELF
SIGH.
YES, I'LL EXPERIENCE IT
SHIT!
SINCE WHEN?!
TAP
CHECKMATE.
I'LL BE
THE LEGENDARY KING

On the day of the party...
I WONDER,
WHAT WILL HAPPEN
AT TOMORROW'S DEBUT MATCH
HUH?
Click
IS NONO-CHAN STILL GETTING READY?
YES,
STILL,
AH, I THINK SHE'S DONE


Beautiful!
OH, MY!
Lemme take a picture!
NONO-CHAN, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL!
NONO-CHAN,
THIS IS A PRESENT FROM ME TO CELEBRATE US BEING A FAMILY.
THEY'RE PINK DIAMOND EARRINGS
THAT ARE BOTH LOVELY AND GRACEFUL.
SO BIG!!
IT'S MY FIRST TIME WEARING DIAMONDS.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WEARING THIS KIND OF DRESS!

TH-
THANK YOU.
YOU'RE TOO STIFF
GIVE ME YOUR HAND
FIRST, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, NEVER PANIC
TODAY IS ICHIJOU GROUP'S FEAST, WHICH MEANS THAT YOU ARE THE NEW PRINCESS
BE PROUD AND GO
OKAY
THERE ARE TWO THINGS TO REMEMBER TODAY

SIDE
SECOND
IT'S YOUR DEBUT,
HAVE FUN!
First flush, it's the "Queen of Tea"
It's the best choice of tea for setting the mood before a challenge
The summer breeze.
And the young leaves of Darjeeling that have begun to bud...

I'll shine brighter
than anyone on the other side of this door!
Chatter
HER STYLE IS WONDERFUL!
OH, MY! HOW BEAUTIFUL!
IS THAT PRESIDENT HAYATO'S NEW DAUGHTER?!

EVERY-ONE,
THANK YOU SO MUCH
FOR GATHERING HERE TODAY
YES
KA-ZUOMI COME WITH ME
OKAY
PRESI-DENT
PLEASE GIVE THE OPENING SPEECH
This is more than I expected
WOW!
AS TO BE EXPECTED OF THE ICHIJOU GROUP
DO YOUR BEST, HAYATO-SAN!
A HOTEL
IS ABOUT A LOVE OF SERVING CUSTOMERS
IT'S DEFINED BY THAT ONE LOVE
WE HOPE TO CONTINUE TO GROW,
WITH THAT BELIEF AS OUR FOUNDATION

CROWD
LET'S HOPE THAT THIS HOTEL GROUP
WILL BE SPECIAL FOR NOW AND FOREVER...
CHEERS!
Stunning...
Once more, they are great people..
OH, HELLO
NONO-SAN
HELLO
YOU LOOK LIKE A REAL LADY...
I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU

DID YOU KNOW?
TODAY MRS. ICHIJOU TOWAKO IS HERE
WHO IS THAT?
SHE'S ICHIJOU KAZUMI'S GRAND-MOTHER.
THE PERSON WHO'S AT THE CENTER OF THE SOCIETY
TO HER, YOU'RE THE SAME AS TRASH
COMMON PEOPLE ARE COMMON PEOPLE
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO EMBARRASS YOURSELF

5

Yuri Shikata

SO WHAT...?
YOU'RE GOING TO BE PLEASED WITH ME BEING TREATED LIKE TRASH BY HER?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
WHY DO YOU LIKE TO TURN ON ME?
Drops
Splash
NOBODY TALKS TO ME LIKE THAT.
Kyaah!

"When you wake up, it's all done. How can that be."
It's a line from Hitomi-san's song called "slow song."
(It's in her album "Deja-vu")
When I was in junior high, I always listened to it while I was drawing. I really like the lyrics of the song. It makes my heart pound whenever I listen to it. Well, this is not about the script though. But I really thought about "Before you knew it, it's already impossible to make your dreams come true." That's why I decided to draw every story, one by one, while aiming for my goal. And until now, that resolve is still unwavering here in my heart. Please, try to listen to it. It's a great song!

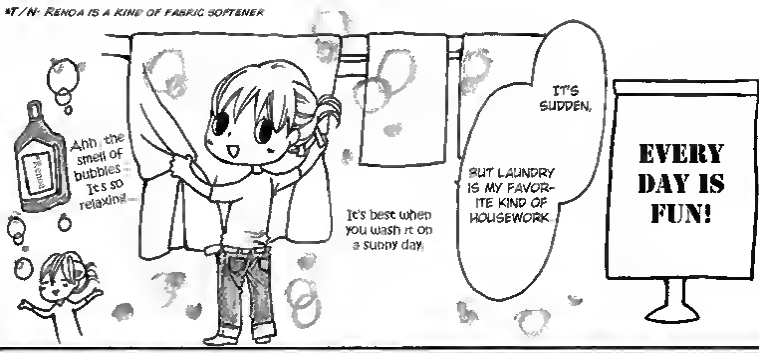
OH, NO
IT'LL STAIN!
tap tap tap
SOME-ONE,
BRING SOMETHING TO WIPE IT WITH!
?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING BY DIRTYING HER DRESS?!
OH MY! NONO-SAN!
BA-THUMP BA-THUMP
What the heck ..?
WHAT?
DON'T RUB IT.
Whatever happens, never panic.
JUST MOISTEN IT AROUND THE STAIN
SO THE STAIN WON'T SPREAD ANY FURTHER
THE STAIN WILL CONTINUE TO SPREAD

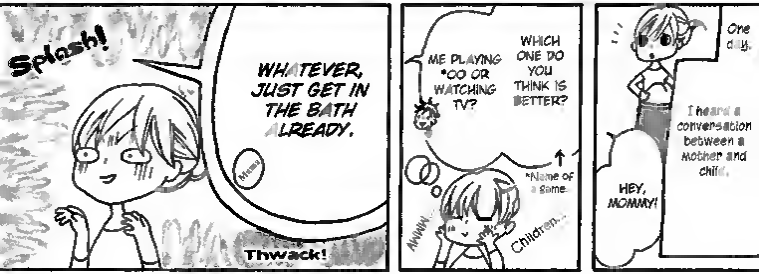
NONO-SAMA, YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT THIS
YES
I'M EXPERI-ENCED IN HOUSE-WORK
Oh! I spilled it!
Wash it for me
BRING HER TO A ROOM
YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO CLEAN IT IF YOU HURRY
I'M VERY SORRY
PLEASE LET ME VISIT YOU AND SHOW MY SINCERE APOLOGY LATER
THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFER AND YOUR PO-LITENESS
DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT IT, ALL RIGHT?

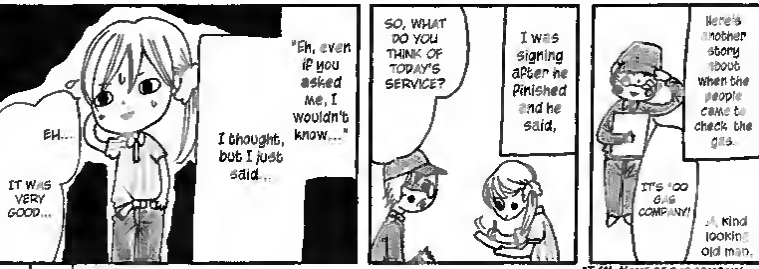
I'M QUITE PLEASED THAT THE DAUGHTER OF PRESIDENT HAYATO IS SUCH A WONDERFUL PERSON
MAYBE WE COULD HAVE TEA TOGETHER SOMETIME...
WELL.
I KNOW THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO GET ME OUT OF THIS WORLD,
BUT DOING THINGS LIKE THIS WITHOUT ANY REASON
IS A BIT UNBEARABLE.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT,
LET'S DO IT FAIR AND SQUARE

JUST YOU AND ME...
PICKING A FIGHT WITH ME!
DON'T REGRET

*T/N: Renoa is a kind of fabric softener


Renoa
Ahh, the smell of bubbles... It's so relaxing!
It's best when you wash it on a sunny day.
It's sudden,
But laundry is my favorite kind of housework.
EVERY DAY IS FUN!




Eh...
It was very good...
I thought, but I just said...
"Eh, even if you asked me, I wouldn't know..."
So, what do you think of today's service?
I was signing after he finished and he said,
Here's another story about when the people came to check the gas.
It's *OO Gas Company!
A kind looking old man.

*T/N: Name of gas company.

Please come in.
Every day, there are funny things around us. Don't you think?
END
Did he just say something funny with a straight face?!
Super Serious
Then Ms. Customer, after I leave,
Call my company and say,
"A really good person came to check the gas today."

Need...more...staff...

ESTHETIQUE NEEDS YOU TO HELP SAVE THIS CUTE LITTLE FELLA! DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

JOIN US AT
HTTP://WWW.ESTHETIQUE-REALM.NET

IMAGE FROM ME AND MY AINIA BY RYAN

Mayonaka ni Kiss

by Mochida Aki

Vol.1 Chapter 3

Scanner: Sylvie
Translator: Chache
Proofreader: MCPanda
Editor: Blue Rose
Qc'er: Katana1765

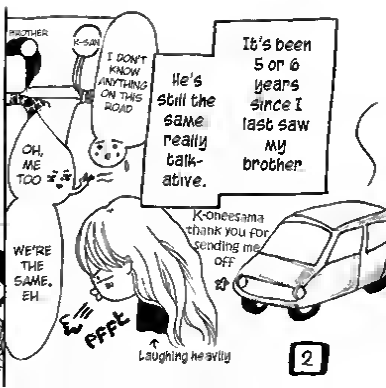
http://www.esthetique-realm.net

Step 3: Arakezuri Na Sono Naka Ni

Pfft
Don't regret picking a fight with me!
Just you and me...

ARE YOU STUPID? WHAT ELSE IS LEFT FOR ME IF YOU TAKE MY FUNNY SIDE?
ONICHAN IS REALLY FUNNY
ONLY KINDNESS IS LEFT
I'm glad my brother is go[illegible]-spirited.

OH YEAH, TIROL CHOCO HERE IN TOKYO COSTS 300 YEN EACH, RIGHT?
YOU MEAN PARIS, RIGHT?
scary place indeed


BROTHER
K-SAN
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ON THIS ROAD
OH, ME TOO
WE'RE THE SAME, EH
He's still the same really talk-ative.
It's been 5 or 6 years since I last saw my brother
K-oneesama thank you for sending me off
Pfft
Laughing heavily
2

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
HOW DO YOU THINK A LADY LIKE ME AND A COMMONER LIKE YOU WILL MATCH?
ARE YOU THINKING OF GRAPPLING?
THE ONE THAT ICHIJOU TOWAKO-SAMA KNOWLEDGES WILL BE THE WINNER.
LET'S GET THE "QUEEN".
TO DECIDE WHICH ONE OF US IS FIT TO LIVE IN HIGH SOCIETY.
VERY WELL THEN.
NOW WHERE IS TOWAKO-SAMA?!
I DON'T KNOW.
PROGRAM

HEY!!
Quipping
What do you mean?!
SHE'S WELL KNOWN TO HATE FORMAL PLACES.
AND IS USUALLY AT THEIR RESIDENCE IN L.A.
I STILL HAVEN'T MET HER EITHER.
LET'S LOOK FOR HER.
IT'S FINE.
...BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, IF I WIN, YOU'LL HAVE TO LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY.
Swiftly

6

Ichiru Shikata

Have you ever been wounded by breaking a thin glass you're washing with full strength? I haven't, but my mom has.

...Twice.

Just speaking of it, there! It hurts only by imagining it.

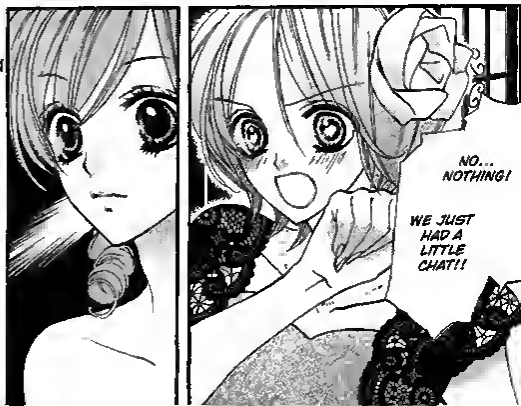
TAGaining to makes me feel dramatic

When I was young I was like, "Poor Mom... please heal quickly..." crying. But when I was grown and able to wash them on my own, I thought

And so I gave a dish washer to my mom as a present.

I'm relieved from the bottom of my heart.

SHE'S STILL NOT USED TO THIS KIND OF PLACE SO, IF SHE DID ANYTHING WRONG, I'M APOLOGIZING IN HER STEAD
I FELT SOMETHING UNEASY GOING ON HERE DID SHE DO SOMETHING TO YOU?



CAN YOU LET US TALK FOR A WHILE?
SORRY
Stare
WH-WHY DID YOU BRING ME TO THIS PLACE..?
I'LL TELL YOU FRANKLY.

You like Kazuomi, right?
BULLSEYE
AS IF!!
BACKS
WHA-
WHAT? WHA-
AWAY
Having fun
SH-
SHUT UP!! LET'S HURRY AND FIND TOWAKO-SAMA!!
OH, SURE
SO
THAT'S THE REASON WHY YOU'RE COLD TOWARDS ME, EH
A GIRL LIVING UNDER THE SAME ROOF YEAH RIGHT
P'ssss!
P'ssss!
YA
JUST NOW, I FELT LIKE I HIT SOMETHING
Love mania. It's been a long time
DON'T JOKE WITH ME!

SAY,
NOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE "QUEEN"?
Oh, geez.
YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, EH
THE "QUEEN", ICHIJOU YURIKO-SAMA, IS ICHIJOU TOWAKO-SAMA'S MOTHER.
THE FOUNDER FELL IN LOVE WITH HER WHEN HE FIRST CAUGHT SIGHT OF HER, AND SHE MADE HER WAY INTO HIGH SOCIETY
SHE HAS AN ABILITY
FOR EXAMPLE, THIS HOTEL'S MAIN COLOR IS WHITE AND IT'S SYMBOL IS THE LILY
ALL OF THESE ARE YURIKO-SAMA'S IDEAS
For each and every costume to be dyed white.
Lily means "purity" in regards to the costumers.
AND SHE HAS HAD MANY OTHER IDEAS THAT ARE STILL BEING USED SINCE THE TIME OF THEIR ESTABLISHMENT.
THERE IS NO ONE WHO DOESN'T RESPECT HER.

Hello everyone,
I'm Ichijou Towako.
Ding Dong
Huh?
The "Queen" is that great..
crowd's noise
IT WILL BE MY FIRST TIME MEETING HER!
SO, IT'S TRUE THAT SHE'LL BE HERE TONIGHT!
IT'S TOWAKO-SAMA!!
Well then, if you have time,
Please, play with me a little.
Today, I have a surprise.
There is a special present hidden within the party hall right now.

YOU'RE ON IT, RIGHT?
OF COURSE
The hint is...
"Beauty."
Turns around
Crowd's Noise
I WONDER WHAT IT IS
BEAUTY?!
I KNEW IT
THIS GAME IS MINE
I BEG YOUR PARDON
Crowd

THE ICHIJOU FAMILY'S FIRST HEAD MISTRESS' HOBBY IS PAINTING
SHE HAS GREAT SKILLS.
MOST OF THEM ARE DISPLAYED AROUND THE HOTEL.
THE PRESENT IS HIDDEN IN HERE
YOU, HELP ME HERE!
YES MA'AM.
AS EXPECTED FROM AJU-SAMA.
YEAH, AND THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT SHE WILL BECOME A "QUEEN" IF SHE MARRIES INTO THE ICHIJOU FAMILY
THAT SWIFT THINKING ONLY AJU-SAMA CAN DO THAT.
REALLY...
For me to lose this easily...
AND THIS IS THE FIRST HEAD MISTRESS' FAVORITE PIECE.
THE TITLE IS
"A LADY'S BEAUTY."

I'm not that knowledge-able..
Am I really not appropriate to become a "Queen"...?
I BELIEVE I TOLD YOU
"DON'T"
"GET FLUSTERED NO MATTER WHAT."
THINK.
DID SAEGUSA AJU FIND THE REAL ANSWER?
EH..?
I CAN'T FIND IT!

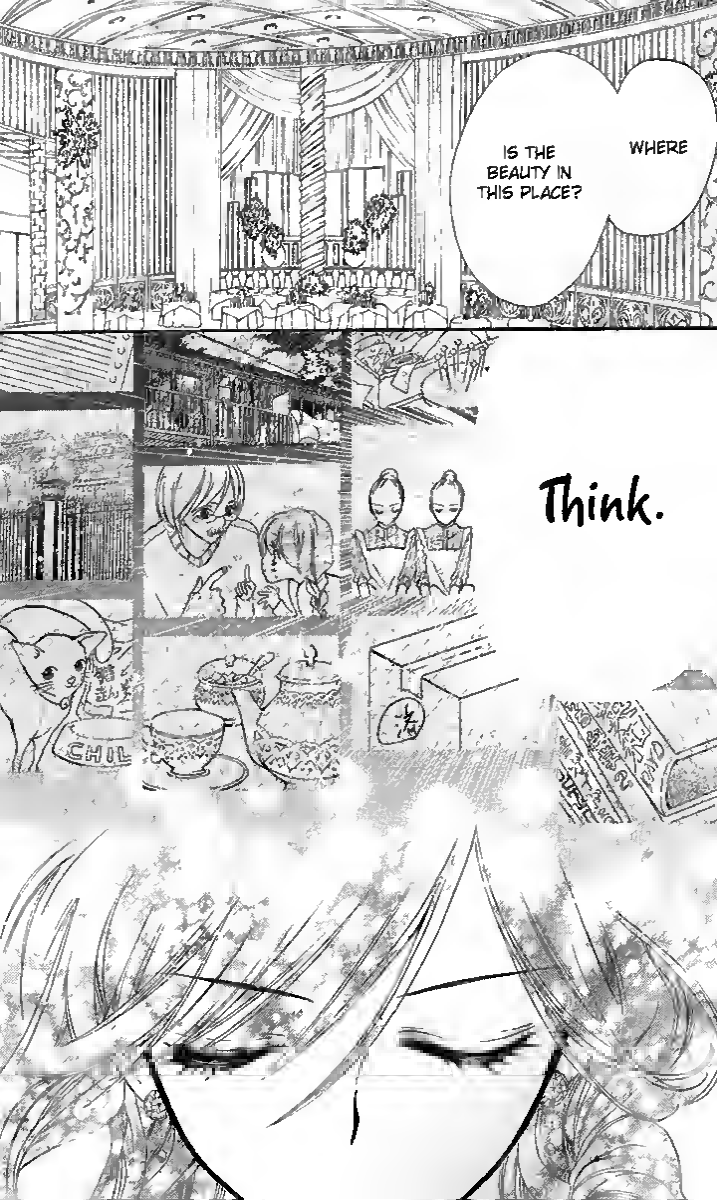
7

Harumi Ochiai

Sweet chan's coffee

MOMIDA-SAN, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME COFFEE?
Angel
The coffee that my assistant Sugar-chan makes for me is incredibly delicious!
HOW SWEET...! A GENTLE FLAVOR THAT PENETRATES THROUGH MIND AND BODY...!
I WONDER IF I PUT A LOT OF SUGAR IN IT...
I'm gonna cry!!
THIS MILDNESS!! THIS GENTLE TASTE!!
NO! THAT'S NOT IT. IT'S NOT THE SUGAR'S SWEETNESS!
TELL ME, YOU LOVE ME DON'T YOU?
YES!
I'm sorry.

CLOSE YOUR EYES.
AND THINK CAREFULLY...
THINK OF EVERYTHING FROM THE DAY YOU WERE BORN,
ALL OF THEM.
YOUR PARENTS' TEACHINGS YOUR SCHOOL LIFE WORK, AND WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED FROM THIS HOUSE.


WHERE IS THE BEAUTY IN THIS PLACE?
Think.

I GOT IT!
turn
Clatter
AYUUPP?!!
OH!
STRANGE
I CAN'T FIND IT...?!
M-
MY APOLOGIES!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
Click
YOUR APRON WAS TORN
EXCUSE ME...
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT THING TO ME, PLEASE GIVE IT BACK LATER.

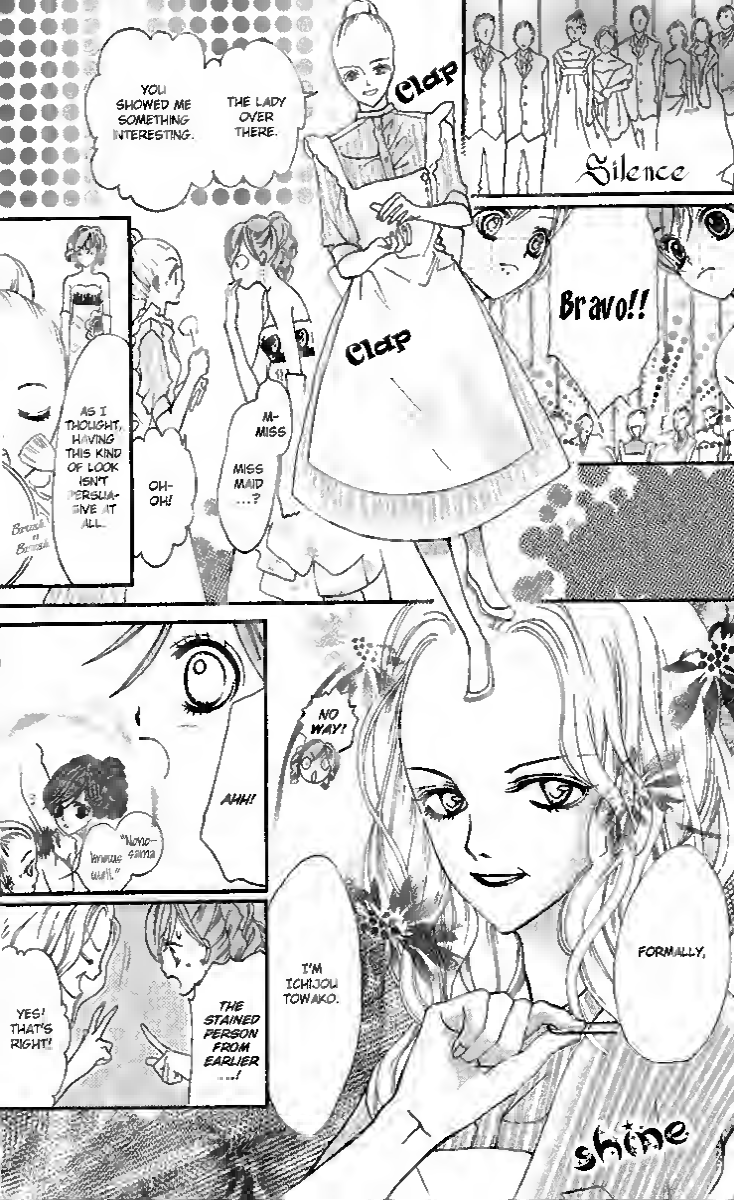
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS NEVER FORGET THE FEELING OF CONSIDERATION
AND IMPLEMENT IT
THAT WAS THE FIRST THING MY PARENTS TAUGHT ME WHEN I WAS YOUNG
Pfft.
I'M THE FIRST ONE WHO KNEW THE ANSWER
SO WHAT?
ICHIJOU HOTEL WAS DESIGNED ACCORDING TO THE HEAD MISTRESS YURIKO-SAMA'S, IDEAS
SINCE THE FIRST ESTABLISHMENT, THE MAIN COLOR WAS WHITE, AND THE SYMBOL WAS A LILY
THAT'S WHY ALL OF THIS IS ALSO DECORATED WITH LILIES
NO
THE ANSWER IS NOT THAT PAINTING.

BUT THERE IS ONE TABLE
THAT HAS A DECORATION OTHER THAN A LILY.
"THE LILIES AND ROSES."
IN ENGLISH IDIOMATIC EXPRESSION, IT MEANS—
"BEAUTY."
IT'S A DIAMOND...
HOW BEAUTIFUL!
....

wiggle wiggle
AWESOME NONO-CHAN!!
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD WITH ENGLISH
MAMA
Cool~
SPLENDID!
AS EXPECTED FROM HAYATO-SAMA'S DAUGHTER!
CHEERING CROWD
THE ANSWER JUST NOW, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU ONLY MADE THAT STORY UP
NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE!!
SHUT IT!
I'll get angry
YOU'RE HAPPY THE WAY YOU ARE ALREADY!!
YOU HAVE YOUR OWN LOVING FAMILY WITH YOU
AND NOW YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU WANT TO BECOME A "QUEEN."
BUT ME, I'M NOT ....

whisper
HE...?
I WONDER WHO IS IT...?
whisper
AJU-SAMA IS TALKING ABOUT HERSELF...
DON'T GET NEAR HIM.
HE
IS MY ONLY HOPE
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS. I WAS ALWAYS ALONE
MY PARENTS DIDN'T GET ALONG AND GOT DIVORCED WHEN I WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL
EVER SINCE I WAS YOUNG, THE ONLY ONES I COULD TALK TO WERE SERVANTS
...IF YOU LIKE HIM THAT MUCH WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELL HIM
YOU KNOW NOTHING!
YOU, AIMING TO BECOME A "QUEEN"!
HOW CAN A PERSON, WHO PLANS ON GETTING WHAT SHE WANTS, KNOW
THE FEAR OF LOSING SOMEONE IMPORTANT...!!
"Nono."

I KNOW
WHEN MY FATHER DIED, I ALMOST BECAME REBELLIOUS
EVEN IF I ACTED LIKE A GOOD GIRL EVERY-DAY.
I THOUGHT "I'M NOT GETTING REWARDED ANYWAY" OR "MISFORTUNE WILL COME MY WAY ANYWAY"...
MAYBE IT'S TRUE THAT YOU'VE SUFFERED A LOT ALREADY BUT...
BUT YOU WILL NEVER BE HAPPY IF YOU ONLY KEEP ON LOOKING BACK.
STOP BLAMING YOUR PAST ALREADY!!!
YOU'RE THINKING, "I'VE ALREADY HAD ENOUGH. THERE'S NO POINT IN WORKING HARD."
YOU'RE CONCEALING YOUR OWN HAPPINESS!
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT.
IF YOU WANT YOUR OWN FUTURE,
YOU HAVE TO MOVE!!


YOU SHOWED ME SOMETHING INTERESTING.
THE LADY OVER THERE.
Clap
Silence
Clap
Bravo!!
AS I THOUGHT, HAVING THIS KIND OF LOOK ISN'T PERSUASIVE AT ALL.
OH-OH!
M-MISS
MISS MAID ...?
Bracelet or Bangle
AHH!
"Ayaya-sama wants..."
NO WAY!
I'M ICHIJOU TOWAKO.
FORMALLY,
YES! THAT'S RIGHT!
THE STAINED PERSON FROM EARLIER ...!
shine

"YA' KNOW?"
THE LADY ABOVE ALL AS EG JUST SAID IT
I WANTED TO SEE HER NATURAL SELF NOT THE ONE WITH THE MASK IN FRONT OF ME, YA'KNOW?
I HEARD HAYATO'S DAUGHTER WANTS TO BECOME A "QUEEN". SO I WANTED TO MEET HER.
THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME EARLIER.
.....
KAZUOMI!!!!! ---♥♥ YOU'VE GROWN UP, EH--- THAT'S MY BOY!
I DIDN'T NOTICE YOU AT ALL...
MOTHER, JUST FOR THAT YOU WENT AS FAR AS DRESSING LIKE THAT...
YOU REALLY HAVE A WEIRD TASTE, AS USUAL.
I'VE HAD MY FILL OBSERVING YOU THIS WHOLE DAY.
I CAN SAY THAT YOU HAVE THE CHARACTER.
THE WAY YOU SHINE IN THAT DRESS. THAT STYLE GIVEN TO YOU BY HEAVEN.
YOUR INSTANT JUDGMENT. THE SMOOTH ACTION.

DO YOUR BEST.
I CAN SEE THAT YOU ARE WORTHY ENOUGH TO AIM TO BECOME A "QUEEN."
UNREFINED, BUT STILL IT SHINES
THAT DIAMOND FITS YOU PERFECTLY.
Guitar sound
...?
Guitar sound
Guitar sound
Guitar sound
YAWN~
WHAT A DAY!!
"Mom."
"Mom, play the guitar."

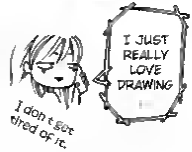
"Someday, I want to travel around the world, to the places where poor children live."
"I love Mom's guitar."
"Kanyuomi, Mom has a dream."
"Keep this a secret from your grandma, okay."
"She always keeps saying it's 'uncool'."
"It's just, somehow"
"I want to give happiness to people with my music"
"Kanyuomi, I'm sure you'll find it, too"
"A wonderful dream that'll make your heart beat fast just by imagining it."
"It's the best if I can be loved by many people, just like Yuriko-sama"
"I'm thinking that"
"In my lifetime, I want to see as much laughter as possible before I die."

OPEN
AH,
UMM, SORRY..
I JUST HEARD A SOUND AND..
WHAT A SURPRISE...
YOU CAN PLAY THE GUITAR...
IT'S OKAY

8

Katsuya Tsuda

I really enjoyed drawing the splash pages of Mayonaka Ni Kiss. I had fun putting in a lot of different designs. You may think, "You've been drawing full time until now, you know." I won't deny that. I am also being told, "You don't need to work that hard ..." by the people from the Editing Dept.



The first one hundred splash pages I autographed were given out as a present to the fans by the magazine. And actually, the signed autographs and prints that are presented in the magazine until now have a little message from me written on the back cover. Take a look at it.

BUT ALSO MAYBE IT'S JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY
I THINK THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S TRUE THAT I WANTED TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE GREATEST WOMAN.

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S OKAY TO CONTINUE AIMING TO BECOME A "QUEEN" WITH THIS HALF-HEARTED FEELING OF MINE
EVEN I MYSELF,
DON'T KNOW WHETHER I REALLY HAVE THAT ABILITY OR NOT.
SO, I WANTED TO ASK YOU WHY DID YOU TELL ME TO BECOME A "QUEEN"
.....
JUST A HUNCH.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING CURIOUS?
"SOMEHOW, FEELING ATTRACTED."
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH OF A REASON?
IT'S NOT THEORETICALLY, IT'S JUST THAT I THOUGHT, "IF IT'S HER, SHE CAN BECOME A 'QUEEN' "

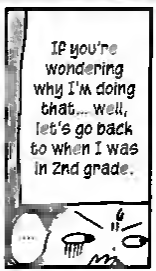
Meow
YOU ACTUALLY HAVE THE CHARACTER TO BECOME ONE.
MY GRANDMA, THE DAUGHTER OF THE FIRST "QUEEN" SAID SO HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO OR WHAT THEY SAY TO YOU,
AS LONG AS YOU'RE NOT LYING TO YOURSELF, ALL RIGHT
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT..
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, BELIEVE IN YOURSELF.
YEAH ..
How strange.

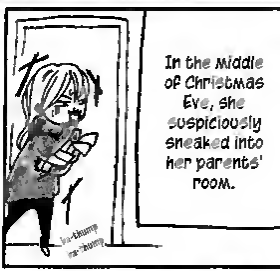
This guy...
Sometimes, he has this look that can make you agree to everything with him.
THANK YOU FOR TODAY
WELL, TODAY I CONFIRMED THAT YOU'RE A PERSON WORTH POLISHING.
IT WENT SO- SO...
FOR YOUR DEBUT BATTLE...
HUH?
SNORE
DON'T TELL ME, THIS GUY... HE CAN BE COMPLETELY USELESS WHEN SLEEPY?
First meeting, still half-asleep.
Z Z Z
Huh?!
He can fall asleep within 00.1 seconds?!
Unbelievable!!
SNORE
Pff

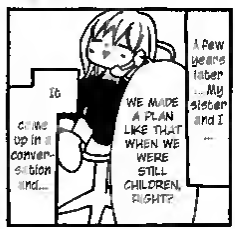
As the crescent moon melts its shine in the dark blue sky,
I feel like I've made a step forward.

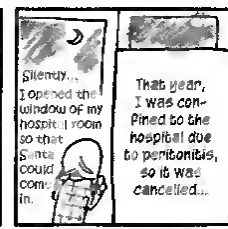
Mochida's Repayment Of Favor

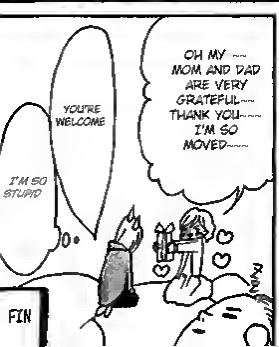
THIS CHRISTMAS, LET'S SURPRISE MOM AND DAD BY SECRETLY GIVING THEM A GIFT!
When my sister and I were still young,
And so that's what we planned, but...
me








Silently... I opened the window of my hospital room so that Santa could come in.
That year, I was confined to the hospital due to peritonitis, so it was cancelled...



deadly silence
And thus... Right now, in place of my sister, who doesn't live at home with us anymore, I need to secretly put the presents..

Need...more...staff...

ESTHETIQUE NEEDS YOU TO HELP SAVE THIS CUTE LITTLE FELLA! DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

JOIN US AT
HTTP://WWW.ESTHETIQUE-REALM.NET

IMAGE FROM ME AND MY AINIA BY RYAN

Happy 7th Anniversary Esthetique!
Looking forward to
many more years!

Mayonaka ni Kiss

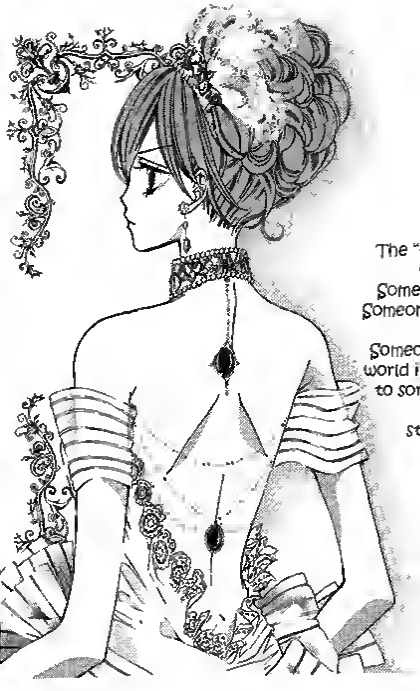
by Mochida Aki

Vol.1 Chapter 4

Scanner: Sylvie
Translator: Chache
Proofreader: Lenne
Editor: Blue Rose
Qc'er: Katana1765

http://www.esthetique-realm.net

Mayonaka ni Kiss
Kiss in the Midnight
step4. Juliet



The "Queen" that I wanted to be is:
Someone who's dignified.
Someone that can never be swayed.
Someone who stands firm on her views.

Someone who seems to see the whole world in a way that she swings from joy to sorrow with warmth in her heart.
Someone who's kind yet strong, a very strong person.

Kyaa kyaa
TEN YEARS AGO
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED!
IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS!!
EVERYONE SAYS SO
THIS COMEDIAN IS FUNNY
HE IS
Everyone became great adults, I'm moved.
Nursery school teacher, Ms. Y
IT'S BEEN A WHILE
I went to visit my old friends from Kyoto
Caretaker, Ms. N
TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME!!
Parting with my Brother and K-san
I will...
K
THIS IS HIS RANDOM SELF

Just like the ol' days

Boil, boil.
Boil, boil.
OK, OK, OK, OK!!
HERE COMES THE SECRET SEASONING TO ADD TO THE TASTE!!
Ba
YA!
IT SMELLS GREAT!!
KYA, IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I LAST ATE NONO'S.
WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS
Gu~
WHAT'S WITH THE FUSS.
Sui home from school.
OH, KAZUOMI-SAMA!

9

Takumi Ichijo

Tokyo Tower

As you see here, this manga's setting is around Shibakouen. That's why you always see Nono and Kazuomi walking around Shibakouen~Azabu Juuban and sometimes Hiroo and Onarimon.

Actually, this place holds a lot of memories of when I was still a student. Like the place where my school and an American school played a basketball match as well as the place where my dream high school is.

THE SCALING FACTOR IS XX LEVEL YOU KNOW!
MOM, I'M GOING TO GO TO THIS SCHOOL!!
Surely it's an absurd number!
It's close to the Tokyo tower, isn't this cool!
MOM IS OKAY WITH WHICH-EVER YOU CHOOSE
OH... THEN
I'll just go to a girls' high school

Of course I didn't have the courage

Ahemm
LET ME EXPLAIN
THAT'S THE LEGENDARY, SUPERB CURRY.
IT IS SAID THAT SOMEONE WHO EATS THIS DISH ONCE WILL FALL SICK WHEN HE DOESN'T EAT IT TWICE A WEEK!

AN INVITATION?!
Today is Saturday. [So they only have morning classes.]
YEAH,
FROM THE ICHIJOU GROUP'S BUSINESS PARTNER, THE SHIKATA CORPORATION'S
MADAM SHIKATA YUKARI.
THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER DAY PLEASE COME VISIT SOME OTHER TIME
chew chew
"Maybe we could have tea together some time."
OH!
THE LADY FROM THAT TIME!
WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO?
OH, THE VISITING MANNERS MANUAL IS IN THIS BOOK!
I'M GOING, TOO.

STANDS UP
EH.
IT'S AT 3 O'CLOCK TOMORROW
MAKE SURE TO MEMORIZE EVERYTHING IN THAT BOOK BY THEN
DO NOT BUNGLE IT.
I'LL SAY I'LL BE MORE NERVOUS IF I GO WITH A GRUMP LIKE YOU
AND HERE
I COOKED FOR EVERY ONE

THAT'S NOT TRUE HONEY.
I DON'T THINK HE'S A BAD GUY BUT....
I REALLY DONT GET HIM SOMETIMES
YOU'VE ALREADY GOT MY HEART....
KINDLY GET AWAY FROM ME, OCHIAI-SAN
YOU'RE BETTER THIS WAY. ♡
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THE PRINCE RIGHT?
BUT I THINK HE'S MORE OPEN TO YOU THAN ANYONE ELSE. YOU KNOW?
HOW IS THAT?
YOU'RE GOING TO SHIKATA MANSION TODAY?
YEAH
FIRST, HE'S BEEN STAYING IN THE LIVING ROOM MORE OFTEN NOW THAN IN HIS ROOM
AND, HE'S BEEN SMILING A LOT LATELY. UNLIKE BEFORE, WHICH WAS JUST ONCE A YEAR.

silence
Yeah, but only a slight smile.
Yeah but only like 30 minutes.
I'M VERY SURPRISED THAT I DON'T HAVE CONFIDENCE
MAYBE BECAUSE
YOU LOOK LIKE
THAT PERSON...
HEY,
WE HAVE TO GO
EH!
OH,
YEAH

"DON'T GIVE UNNECESSARY HINTS"
HUH
HEY, WAIT FOR ME
YES SIR.
OCHIAI,
WE WON'T BE USING THE CAR TODAY
OH
IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
WE'LL WALK

[He has the]
"You-should've-just-bought it"
eyes.
Azabu Fire Dept
SHUT UP
OH, THIS? A PRESENT!
IT'S THE SWEETS I BAKED THIS MORNING
AND THE FLOWERS I PICKED FROM THE GARDEN!
HEY, WHAT DO YOU HAVE THERE?
Read
IT'S BEST IF YOU ARRIVE 5-10 MINUTES LATER THAN THE PROMISED TIME
Read

HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED?
NOW THAT IT'S SUMMER, ICHIJOU'S GARDEN IS SO BEAUTIFUL!!..
I REALLY WANTED TO GIVE THE FLOWERS I PICKED FROM THE GARDEN.
EVEN SWEETS, TOO
THE TIME AND FEELINGS YOU PUT INTO BAKING FOR THAT PERSON IS ENOUGH OF A PRESENT
'Kazuomi, my favorite part of the house is this garden.'
"I want all the people that I love to see this garden."
FEELINGS IN PRESENTS, EH.
SURELY, THAT'S YOUR VERY OWN "QUEEN" IMAGE.

Oh,
he smiled.
Such a beautiful face
I wonder
what this guy is thinking
"YOU LIKE KAZUOMI RIGHT"
I guess there aren't very many people like her...
"I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM EVEN THOUGH WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER."
WE'RE HERE

10

Kowako Ichijo

Ayano

*Karakuchi Super Dry Lady Asahi

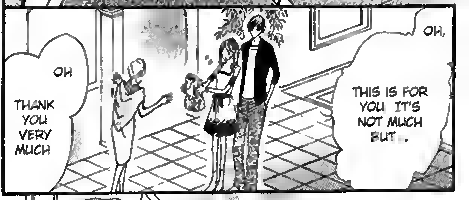
*Karakuchi Super Dry Lady Asahi= Karakuchi super dry in the name of a beer here in Japan produced by the Asahi company and so Karakuchi super dry lady Asahi is what they call the lady who wins the Asahi beauty contest and becomes the poster girl of Asahi Beer I don't know how to explain it properly, but it's something like that. ^^

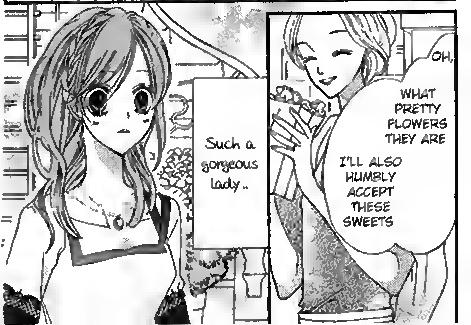
I'm close to one of my friends from high school and we go everywhere together ^^

When we were in high school we went to Tokyo tower together but we didn't make it inside because we didn't have money that time The entrance fee is $620 how's that!!! That's why when we became full fledged adults and were then able to climb up to the top of the tower we were really happy

UHA-HAHA
ISN'T THIS A BRIGHT YELLOW T-SHIRT ?!!
Since we both just got home from work we were kinda "introvertered" so, we were in high spirits

She doesn't listen to my consultations, she just says "Oh really I guess it can't be helped " But when I'm in real trouble, no matter how long it takes she'll hear me out Isn't she cool? I'm really thankful every day for having a friend like her

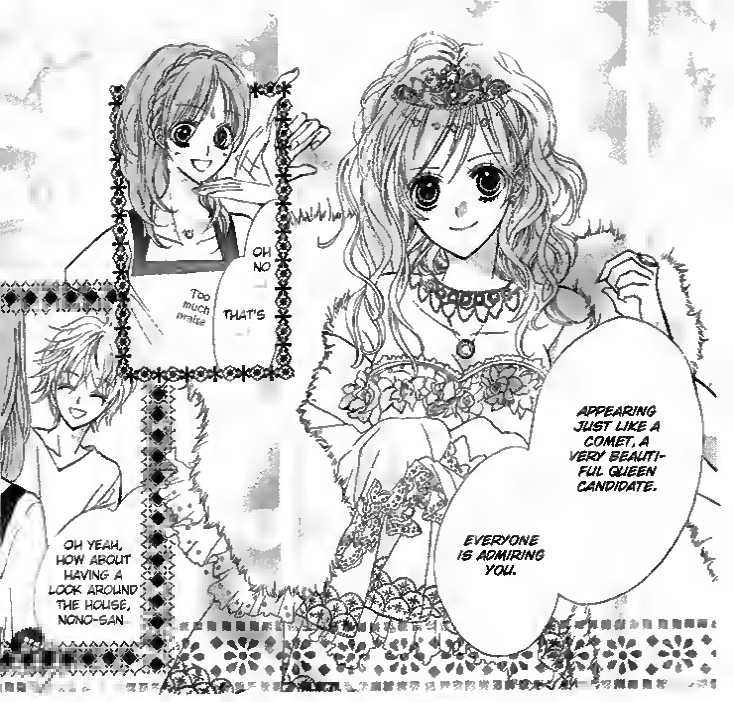




OH MY!
YOU MEAN NONO-SAN LEARNED ALL HER MANNERS IN JUST A COUPLE OF DAYS?!
SPLENDID
THAT TIME NONO-SAN WAS VERY GLAMOROUS
OH, NOT...
BLUNTLY
NOT REALLY.
MOTHER,
WE HAVE VISITORS?

BI
LET ME INTRODUCE YOU
THIS IS MY SON, JUURI
AND HIS YOUNGER SISTER, ICHIRU
(OH, YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS.)
Bishouen!
NICE TO MEET YOU
I'M 15
AND ICHIRU IS 9
HE LOOKS LIKE A GIRL.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME KAZUOMI-SAN
HOW ARE YOU?

..?
...
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED. YOU'RE BIGGER AND MANLIER THAN I AM...
MY EXACT OPPOSITE.
NONO-SAN, TOO.
I'VE HEARD RUMORS
THAT YOU DID GREAT AT THE PARTY.
DID YOU KNOW?
ALL THE LADIES ARE VERY ENVIOUS OF YOU


OH NO
THAT'S
Too much matte
APPEARING JUST LIKE A COMET, A VERY BEAUTIFUL QUEEN CANDIDATE.
EVERYONE IS ADMIRING YOU.
OH YEAH, HOW ABOUT HAVING A LOOK AROUND THE HOUSE, NONO-SAN

LEFT BEHIND...
Zzzz
OH, MY BOY.
I WONDER IF HE FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH NONO-SAN

WA-
WAIT!

Come with us Ichiru
OURS ISN'T LIKE THE ICHIJOU'S MANSION,
BUT IT'S STILL A REFINED PLACE

I AGREE WITH THAT.
BUT, I FEEL THE SAME THOUGH
BY THE WAY, HOW ARE, JUURI AND LADY ICHIRU'S CONDITION LATELY?
ER... UHM, STILL THE SAME
AS THEIR MOTHER, IT'S MY FAULT
HER STRONG GAZE IS LIKE, YOU KNOW...
IT'S LIKE A LIGHT SO BRIGHT
IT MAKES YOU LOOK FORWARD TO WHATEVER MIRACLES SHE'LL MAKE FROM HERE ON

THERE ARE DISPLAY WINDOWS IN EVERY DIRECTION
AND PAINTED IN EVERY WINDOW ARE THE SEASONS' TREES AND FLOWERS
OSAKURA CHERRY BLOSSOMS IN SPRING
OKINAOKOSEI FRAGRANT OLIVES IN AUTUMN
OTSUBAKI CAMELLIA JAPONICA IN WINTER
OKUCHINASHI GITE JASMINES IN SUMMER
THEY'RE ALL AFTER THE SHIKITA'S FAMILY NAME.
WOW, INTERESTING!
THE ICHIJOU MANSION IS SO HUGE THAT I ALWAYS LOSE MY WAY.
Until now
HAVING DIFFERENT STYLES OF MAKING UP THE ROOM IS VERY COOL.

QUEEN
IT'S WAY DIFFERENT FROM THE SHIKATA FAMILY, WHO'S JUST BEEN THEIR AFFILIATE FOR THE LONGEST TIME.
IT'S THE SAME WITH THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, THE ICHIJOU HAVE A PERFECT LINEAGE.
INDEED...
THIS HOUSE... COMPARED TO THE ICHIJOU'S MANSION, IS JUST A STORAGE ROOM.
—THAT AGAIN.
I'VE BEEN BOTHERED BY IT UNTIL NOW
WHY ARE YOU DEGRADING YOUR FAMILY AND YOURSELF?

IT MAY BE TRUE THAT THE ICHIJOU AND KAZUOMI ARE GREAT.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO LOWER YOURSELF.
JUURI-KUN?!
FAINT

WHAT IF JULIRI FELT SICK?
OH MY...
AREN'T THE THREE OF THEM A BIT LATE...
...ANYWAY,
...
...I'M SORRY, NONO-SAN...
NOPE,
YOU BETTER THANK ICHIRU-CHAN HERE. SHE WAS BY YOUR SIDE ALL ALONG, RIGHT?
...
SHY?
ANYWAY...
ARE YOU HURT SOME-WHERE?

I'VE HAD THIS SINCE BIRTH.
I HAVE A FRAIL BODY...
I CAN'T EVEN GO OUT ALONE.
MY SISTER, TOO.
COME HERE, ICHIRU.
SHE CAN'T SPEAK.
SHE WAS BORN IN THE SUMMER.
SO THERE ARE RUMORS THAT SHE'S BEEN CURSED BY THE "KUCHINASHI"...
I WAS BORN AS THE FIRST SON, AND YET...
I...
TIGHTENS
THAT'S ...

"Kuchinashi" is a summer flower and is also read as "kuchi nashi" which means "no mouth" that's why she can't speak.

TELL ME, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO NOT LOWER MYSELF
WITH THIS BODY, I'M NOT QUALIFIED TO TAKE OVER THE FAMILY
I HATE CINDERALLA'S SISTERS!
USED TO PLAY A GAME RIGHT AFTER WE READ STORY BOOKS
LISTEN. A LONG TIME AGO MY DAD AND I
WHAT DO YOU THINK THESE SISTER'S GOOD TRAITS ARE?
THEN, NONO.
YOU THINK SO?
THEY'RE MEAN

I THINK THEY'LL BE FRIENDS WITH CINDERELLA!!
AND THEN, AND THEN,
AT THE END OF THE STORY
SHE HAS A BEAUTIFUL NOSE.
YEAH.
HER RED HAIR IS BEAUTIFUL.
YEAH
?
?
?
THAT'S RIGHT,
YOU ALSO HAVE TO FIND THEIR GOOD TRAITS.
YUP.
JUURI-KUN AND ICHIRU-CHAN
ALSO, HAVE THEIR OWN GOOD TRAITS
I'LL FIND THEM FOR YOU,
EVEN IF IT TAKES ME A LOT OF TIME
THERE'S NO ONE WHO DOESN'T DESERVE TO SHINE

NONO-SAN IS AMAZING...
WELL, YOU SEE, IT'S NOT THAT I'M BETTER THAN OTHERS
OR THAT I MAY NOT BE FIT TO BE THE QUEEN BUT
LET'S DO OUR BEST TO SHINE.
HEH HEH HEH
I FEEL LIKE... ALL THIS TIME I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO TELL ME THAT
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
I WILL DO MY BEST
!!

11

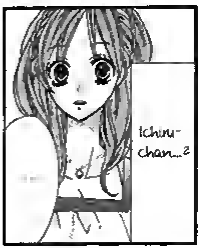
Eiichi Natori

& Chiru *na-chan in the midnight...

*Na-chan is Otsuchi Natsumi-sensei's nickname.

Hi everybody! We have the continuation from the previous comic "Hanzawa Straight". The plan this time is a surreal collaboration with my manga-ka friend. She will write and I will draw. And this time it's "Oouchi Natsumi-chan". When I saw the script I really got excited!!!

She made Nono really well. The Nono in this story has more class than the real one.... =) Na-chan, thank you very much!!! I, too, was given a chance to collaborate on Natsumi-sensei's "Aozora Pop 3" and Hanzawa-sensei's "Ichigo Omelettes 5". Please take look!!



EXCUSE ME.
JUURI-KUN ...?
YOU'RE A BIT LATE, SO
WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT'VE
ON THE WAY.
BUT THANKS TO THAT WE WERE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT VALUABLE THINGS
SHE IS AN AMAZING PERSON.
IT'S JUST THE USUAL ATTACK
I'LL GET BETTER IN NO TIME.

PLEASE COME AND VISIT AGAIN.
IT'S ALREADY SUMMER.
HOP
OH, IT'S THE ICHIJOU HOTEL.
HHN
WELL, LET'S GO HOME
AND I'LL START DOING MY BEST WITH MY LESSONS AGAIN.
YOU SEE, FROM THE TIME I BECAME PART OF THE ICHIJOU FAMILY
I FEEL SOMEWHAT HAPPY WHENEVER I SEE THE ICHIJOU HOTEL.

JUST THINKING THAT THAT HUGE BUILDING IS FROM OUR FAMILY,
DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU EXCITED?
I FEEL LIKE THEY HAVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS.
WHETHER IT'S AJU-SAN OR JUURI-KUN.
I KNOW IT'S JUST ME GUESSING IT OVER BUT
IT'S LIKE IT GIVES ME THE COURAGE TO BELIEVE
THAT I CAN MAKE MY WAY TO THE TOP

I WANTED TO BE A QUEEN
THAT CAN FILL EVERYONE'S HEART.
YOU'RE MAKING THE HURDLE TOO HIGH.
BRING IT ON
ICHIRU, COME HERE

THAT'S ICHIJOU NONO, EH
AND I EXPECTED HER TO BE MORE INTERESTING
BECAUSE I HEARD SHE PICKED A FIGHT WITH SAEGUSA AJU AT THE PARTY
"THERE'S NO ONE WHO DOESN'T DESERVE TO SHINE"
YOU SAY
YOU'RE MAKING ME SICK.

Na-chan in the Midnight

Art- Machida Aki

Story- Oouchi Natsumi

END

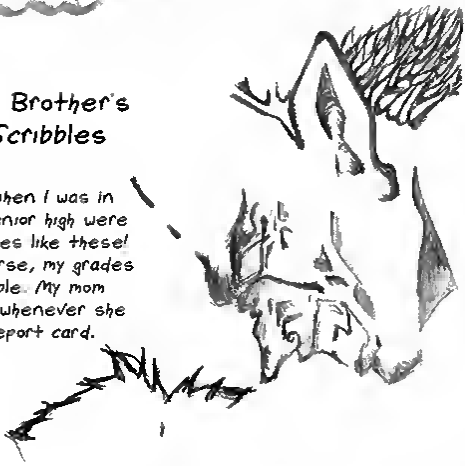
One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever
Shekyl Proofreader
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
Rayn Translator
Kuhr
Kitsune Admin
FROZEN
Rose? Did you hear me?
WOBBLE
Oh, crap!
Kitsune-sama! Are you OK?
BONK!
What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?
Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did Shoujo manga cease to exist?
Oh, no! It was something much more sinister
STAFF SHORT-AGES!
SNAP!
HUGE PILES OF TRANSLATED CHAPTERS...
SPREAD THE NEWS, WE NEED NEW EDITORS AND QC-ERS STAT!
If you think you've got what it takes, contact us at esthetiquestaff@gmail.com.

Happy 7th Anniversary Esthetique!
Looking forward to
many more years!

Step 5: Lemon Tree

I asked my brother to drop a few lines ♡♡

My Brother's Scribbles

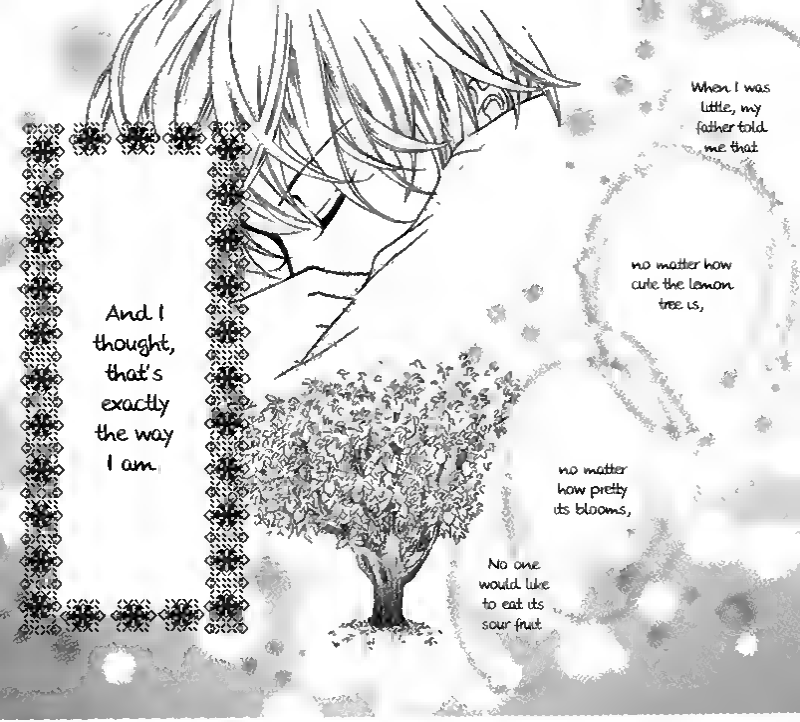


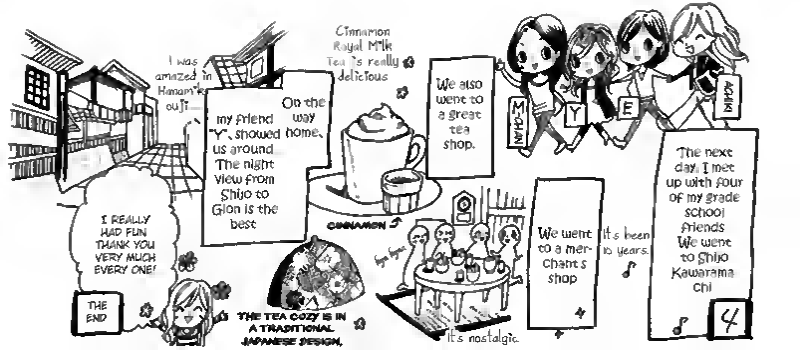
My notes when I was in junior and senior high were full of scribbles like these! And of course, my grades were horrible. My mom turned pale whenever she saw my report card.

Unlike before, Aki is visiting Kyoto more frequently. We haven't seen her for almost 5 or 6 years. I guess she has a lot of free time now?

Whatever!! Dearest Aki, there's only one thing your brother here wants to tell you. Just do your best randomly. Just random. Okay?

Somewhat cool, isn't he? I don't want to know what the readers will think if they read this


When I was little, my father told me that
no matter how cute the lemon tree is,
And I thought, that's exactly the way I am.
no matter how pretty its blooms,
No one would like to eat its sour fruit


I was amazed in Hanami's outfit
On the way my friend "Y" showed home, us around. The night view from Shijo to Gion is the best
Cinnamon Royal Milk Tea is really delicious
We also went to a great tea shop.
CINNAMON
MAIKO
Y
E
KAWAI
The next day, I met up with four of my grade school friends. We went to Shijo Kawarama chi
4
We went to a merchant's shop
4
It's been 10 years.
It's nostalgic.
I REALLY HAD FUN THANK YOU VERY MUCH EVERY ONE!
THE END
THE TEA COZY IS IN A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE DESIGN.

PRIVATE N ACADEMY.
1. KAZUOMI ICHIJO 78
2. HARUO SAKURABA 72
3. YU SUGAWARA 72
HEY LOOK, LAST MONTH'S MOCK EXAM RANKINGS.
ICHIJO, KAZUOMI IS TOP AGAIN?!
COOL
THE SCHOOL'S RICHEST GUY IS ALSO THE SCHOOL'S TOP STUDENT.
REALLY ADMIRABLE.
YEAH, YOU CAN'T EVEN ENVY HIM.
SOMEHOW, IT'S LIKE HE'S HIGHER THAN THE CLOUDS
OOOH, SCARY.
open
TeaLounge

I THINK THEY'RE INTERESTED IN YOU.
KAZUOMI.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I'M TALKING ABOUT HOW GREAT ICHIJOU KAZUOMI-SAMA IS ♡
Espresso, please.
Binding Recipes Techniques

SO? SO?
HOW WAS IT?! YOUR FATHER'S NEW WIFE'S DAUGHTER?!
HOW, YOU SAY
DID YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH YOUR STEP SISTER, LIKE A FORBIDDEN LOVE OR SOMETHING?
KATSUYA,
DIE.
Hey, wait!
Don't say that like a magic spell or something!
HE IS INTERESTED IN HER...
IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU?
THAT JULIET!
IT SEEMS LIKE... THE SHIKATA BOY IS INTERESTED IN HER

CLANK
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE HER.
I WAS THE ONE WHO FOUND HER
I'M SURE SHE WON'T LOSE TO THAT BRAT.
UHMM...
IT FEELS DIFFERENT...
MORE TO THE LEFT!

GREENERY CLUB
All right! Oh yes!
WH-IT IS NONO DOING?
Ugh!
WHY DO SUCH A TROUBLE-SOME THING?
FOR-ESTRY COMMIT-TEE.
SHE SAID SHE'S BEEN DOING ALL THE HIGH CLASS LESSONS AT HOME
SO SHE WANTS TO WORK HARDER EVEN IN SCHOOL
dazzling
dazzling
SATOMI, SACHI, MASAKI!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING! LET'S GO HOME!
bright
UGH URGH..
BUT REALLY, NONO BECAME CHEERFUL
I'll go get my bag.
YEAH, LIKE SHE'S REALLY SMILING FROM HER HEART
Thanks for your hard work.
Hey NONO NONO!
THERE'S TROU-BLE!

THERE'S THIS SUPER COOL GUY IN THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL LOOKING FOR YOU!!
AH, UM...?
What's with you lately?!
NONO-SAN!
JUURI-KUN?!
And Ichiru chan, too!
I DIDN'T ENTERTAIN YOU MUCH THE LAST TIME SO I THOUGHT I'D ASK YOU TO PLAY WITH US TODAY.
I'M GLAD WE'RE ABLE TO SEE YOU!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

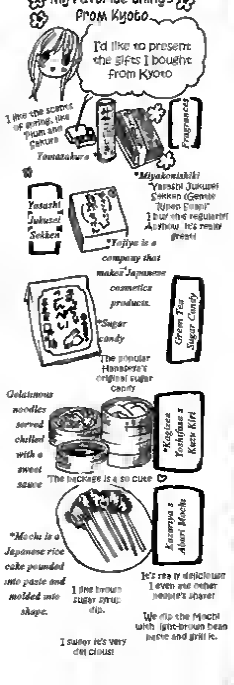
?
PLAY?
JUURI-KUN...
ARE YOU FEELING ALRIGHT TODAY?
DON'T WORRY I CAN HANDLE THIS MUCH
I ALSO WENT TO SCHOOL TODAY
I SEE...
AND
I REALLY WANTED TO SEE NONO-SAN.
Smile
UH.
TH-
THANK YOU!

12

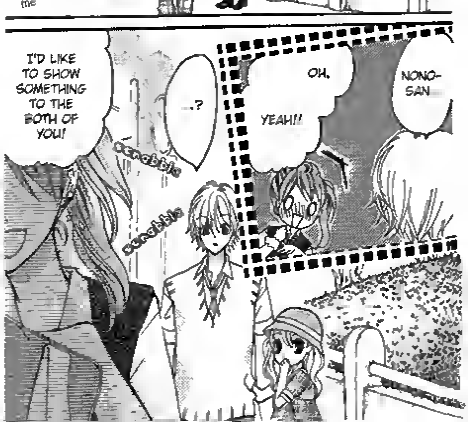
Hayato Ichijo

& Ayame

My Favorite things From Kyoto


I'd like to present the gifts I bought from Kyoto
I like the scents of spring, like plum and sakura
Tamatebako
Fragrance
*Miyakonishiki
Yamashi Jukusei Sekkan (Genroe Ripen Bean)
I buy the regularly. Anyhow it's really great!
Yatoshi Jukusei Sekkan
*Tojiye is a company that makes Japanese cosmetics products.
*Sugar candy
The popular Hanapetal original sugar candy
Green Tea Sugar Candy
Delicious noodles served chilled with a sweet sauce
The package is so cute
*Kagiya Yokufuka x Kuzu Kiri
*Mochi is a Japanese rice cake pounded into paste and molded into shape.
I like brown sugar syrup, dip.
I suppose it's very diet conscious
Kagiya's Aburi Mochi
It's really delicious! I even eat other people's share!
We dip the objects with light-brown bean paste and grill it.

What's wrong, Ichiru?
Is it hot?
Somehow, this guy is really making me feel relaxed...
And he's calmer than before...
Even though he's younger than me



Juuri-kun and Ichiru-chan's Good Traits Note
TA-DA
GOOD TRAITS NOTE!!
WHAT IS THAT
HERE, I WRITE JUURI AND ICHIRU'S GOOD TRAITS!
AND I JUST FOUND ANOTHER ONE RIGHT NOW.
JUURI-KUN IS ALWAYS TAPPING ICHIRU-CHAN'S HEAD
AND LOOKS HER IN THE EYES WHENEVER HE TALKS TO HER
MAYBE YOU DON'T NOTICE IT YOURSELF
BUT YOU LOOK SO GENTLE
YOU REALLY LOVE ICHIRU-CHAN THAT MUCH

13

Like Father, Like Son

I'M SOFT WHEN IT COMES TO MY FATHER..

I indulge my father.. Like the other day, it was the day before the deadline for my project and my father phoned me a couple of times I thought it was something urgent so I answered and

This is not the time for that!!
M'DONALD'S FREE DRINK COUPON IS ONLY UNTIL TOMORROW!!
Father
The day after the deadline
Sip
But in the end we went together
A famous song singer
Father
Come to my place
And once when it was my Father's birthday each member of the family had their own business to attend to
And the time when my dad played the guitar for me after my project's deadline
You're the best
Let's just say I'm a good daughter.
OMM
Mom
Aki-chan you really love your Father, don't you?

"THE LEMON TREE IS SO LOVELY
AND ITS BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS BLOOM,
BUT YOU CAN'T EAT ITS FRUIT SO EASILY"
TAP
TAP
A MODEST AND BEAUTIFUL SONG
ABOUT A BITTER FIRST LOVE

UM...?
WHY BRING UP THAT TOPIC NOW...?
...
IT'S NOTHING REALLY.
LOOK, WE'RE HERE.
IT'S HERE.
looks around
THIS IS THE FAMOUS SALON
MY FRIENDS ARE PROBABLY HERE, TOO I'LL GO LOOK FOR THEM
Just wait here please
GASP
HELLO ICHIRU-CHAN.

I'M GLAD...!
SHE WANTS TO SPEAK TO ME...
Don't ll me,
Communi cation by writing?!
PULL
EH, UHM
MY NOTE-BOOK?
Talking from a person's inner voice
STEP
STEP
?
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY...
DO I FEEL SNEAKY
STARTLE
ICHIRU!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? COME HERE, NOW
Fancy
..What is this about..?
LET'S GET ALONG WELL
WEL-COME NONO-SAN!
HELP MY ONIICHAN.

What lively people...
THESE ARE THE LADIES I MET AT THE PARTY
JU-JUURI-KUN, WHO ARE THESE LADIES?
WE WERE AT THAT PARTY, YOU KNOW
Fufufufu
Hohoho
YOU REALLY DID PRETTY WELL THAT NIGHT
SO,
NONO-SAMA, DO YOU HAVE ANY TALENTS?
EH?
OH C'MON ...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HIDE IT FROM US.
TOWAKO-SAMA WOULDN'T CHOOSE YOU OVER US
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING SPECIAL, RIGHT...
NOT TO MENTION..
YOU'RE A COMMONER..

14

Yuriko Ichijo

We're looking forward to seeing you again

The end!

Yes! This Freetalk will be the last Freetalk for this volume (But there's still an Omake page so please look forward to it)

Back in spring, when this story started to be published, I had an autograph signing session It was really, really fun!

I feel really happy thinking I'm becoming part of a little girl's growth and/or becoming their inspiration

I've been reading Ribon Comics for 7-8 years now, but I think I will never forget the very first story that I fell in love with or the very first mangaka who sent me a return letter for the rest of my life

Little girls will mature someday, but to be able to spend a precious time with the readers by manga, I really feel blessed

Please look forward to the next ☆ volume!

WELL, TOWAKO-SAMA IS KIND OF ECCENTRIC
...Eh?
OH, NONO-SAN,
HOW ABOUT JOINING US FOR A DANCE PARTY NEXT TIME?
SO ON THE CONTRARY, MAYBE SHE THOUGHT THAT THE LIKES OF NONO-SAN ARE INTERESTING.
THAT'S RUDE
Ha ha ha!

N-NO NO, NO THANKS!! I'M NOT REALLY GOOD AT DANCING!
What is with these people ...?
OH, THAT'S RUDE,
THERE'S ONE IN FRONT OF US...
clatter
clatter
H MY DON TELL ME A LADY WHO DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO DANCE THE WALTZ EXISTS?

LADIES!
HOW COULD YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
I'M VERY SORRY NONO-SAN!
I'LL TALK TO THEM!!
I'M SURE THEY'RE JUST ENVIOUS OF YOU
BECAUSE YOU'RE A GREAT PERSON
SORRY, I HAVE TO GO!
TURN
BEING A STRONG CANDIDATE TO BECOMING THE QUEEN IS SOMETHING EVERYONE WILL ENVY
IT'S OKAY
ANYWAY, JUURI-KUN HAS MANY FRIENDS,
I'LL MAKE SURE TO WRITE THAT IN MY NOTES!

JUURI-KUN!
THAT WAS A SPLENDID ACT
WE'LL CON-TINUE LIKE THIS.
.....
WE'LL WORK TO-GETHER
AND GET HER OFF HER PLACE
AS A STRONG QUEEN CANDIDATE
THANKS
FOR THE HARD WORK LADIES!
SMILE
Juuri kun and Ichiyou-chan Good Buddy
I'm sorry,
Ichyou Nono.

but to hate you
I have no choice
WELCOME HOME KAZUOMI-SAMA
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

TA
DA!
CAN'T YOU TELL BY JUST LOOKING?
DANCE MANUAL
I MET WITH JUURI-KUN'S GIRLFRIENDS TODAY AND ON THE WAY HOME I KINDA GOT PISSED REMEMBERING THEIR ATTITUDES AND HOW THEY LOOKED DOWN ON ME!!
Tom
Let's go
Cleave
I'M HAVING MY ENGLISH LESSONS, MANNERS OF SPEECH, AND FLOWER ARRANGEMENT AT THE SAME TIME!!
I CAN'T.
.....
BUT I CAN'T GET THIS STEP RIGHT...
AND I ALSO WANT TO LEARN HOW TO DANCE
IF THEY REALLY WANT A CHALLENGE, I'LL ACE EVERYTHING AND SHUT THEM UP!!

PUT THE BOOK DOWN.
I'LL BE YOUR PARTNER.
WHAT NOW?
HEY, DON'T BOTHER ME.
YOU NEED TO LEARN THAT WITH YOUR BODY
FWISH
Reckless

FIRST, YOU NEED TO TAKE A BIG STEP WITH YOUR RIGHT FOOT BACKWARDS DIAGONALLY
STRAIGHTEN YOUR POSTURE
Float
Whoa...

DANCING IS GREAT!! IT'S LIKE YOU'RE FLOATING IN THE SKY!!
AH.
FALL
KA-
KAZUOMI!
It feels like my body is floating
It's fun...!!
What's this?!
Amazing!

—EH?
I-I'M SORRY!
We really did float there ...
IF YOU MOVE YOUR BODY, AIR FLOWS IN YOUR HEAD, YOU SEE.*
DID YOUR BRAIN FEEL THE AIR NOW?
* @c NOTE: I THINK HE MEANS THAT EXERCISE INCREASES BLOOD FLOW (OXYGEN) TO THE BRAIN.

CLAP
CLAP
A REALLY WONDERFUL DANCE THERE
I'M ONLY HERE FOR SOME WORK BUT THAT CAUGHT MY EYE
AND MADE ME WANT TO WATCH

And that's dancing.
THANKS!
CLAP CLAP

N... NO! IT'S OKAY!
LET ME THANK YOU FOR MAKING FRIENDS WITH MY KIDS.
NICE TO MEET YOU, NONO-SAN. I'M SHIKATA KEIICHI.
WHO IS HE...?
THEY'RE NOT REALLY SOCIABLE SO...
WHEN I SAY THOSE KIDS ARE REALLY KIND BUT,
...I KNOW I'M TALKING AS THEIR FATHER,
UHM... I WONDER
IF THEY'VE CAUSED YOU ANY TROUBLES...
WELL THEN...
sigh
NO...
NO THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
ACTUALLY, I REALLY LIKE THEM BOTH!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
. WHY
IS HE TALKING LIKE THAT?

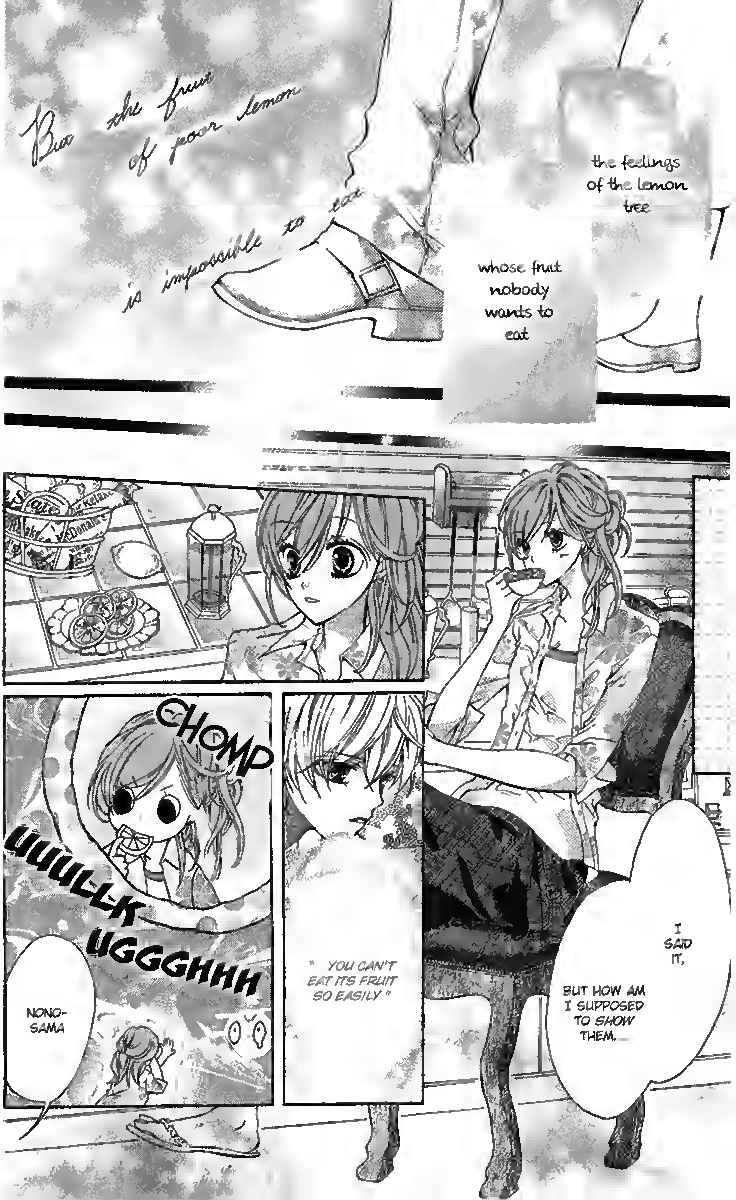
It seems like they're apologizing in advance
before those two are criticized.
...I'VE BEEN IN THIS WORLD SINCE I WAS YOUNG
AND I'VE SEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT
THEY'RE ALL RAISED TO BECOME QUEEN IN THE FUTURE.
THE MORE THEY'RE AT THE TOP, THE HIGHER THE DEMANDS ARE,
AND SO THEY END UP EXPECTING MORE FROM THEIR CHILDREN
THE SAME GOES FOR THE LADIES YOU MET TODAY
AND YOU APPEAR OUT OF THE BLUE
BEING FAVORED BY ICHIJOU TOWAKO.

I didn't know
"HOW PATHETIC, LOSING TO A COMMONER."
THOSE LADIES ENVY YOU AND I CAN IMAGINE THEIR PARENTS ARE SIGHING...
That someone is suffering like that...
WANT TO STOP NOW?
I KNOW YOU'LL SAY, "I'D RATHER NOT BECOME THE QUEEN IF I'M GOING TO HURT SOMEONE"
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
GRAB
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME.

I'M SORRY BUT I, TOO, HAVE PRIDE OF MY OWN.
I'M THE WAY I AM
AND I'LL SHOW JULIRI-KUN AND THE OTHERS THAT YOU CAN'T JUDGE A PERSON BY SOMETHING
LIKE FAMILY BACKGROUND
I SWORE THAT DAY
THAT I'D MAKE THE REST OF MYSELF
AND LIVE WITHOUT REGRETS.

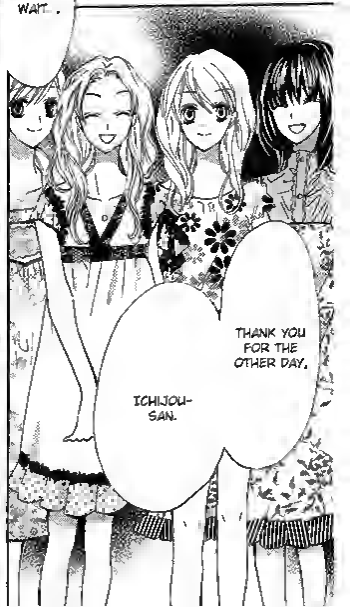
...I'VE BEEN IN THIS WORLD SINCE I WAS YOUNG
AND I'VE SEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE LIKE THAT."
I will not let myself be taunted by that lonely rule of this world.
I'll show them I can become the Queen even with the way I am.
WELL SAID.
...WHAT'S WRONG ICHIRU, CAN'T SLEEP?
COME HERE

TODAY...
I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM JULIRI AND ICHIRU'S TEACHER..
THEY DON'T SEEM SOCIABLE WITH THEIR CLASSMATES..
I'M HOME
WELCOME HOME DEAR
!
turn
WE NEED TO APOLOGIZE
CALL THE TEACHER
very young
Ichyou Nono,
you will never know


But the fruit of poor lemon
is impossible to eat
the feelings of the lemon tree
whose fruit nobody wants to eat
CHOMP
UUUU-KK
UGGGHHH
NONO-SAMA
" YOU CAN'T EAT ITS FRUIT SO EASILY "
I SAID IT,
BUT HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO SHOW THEM...

DO YOU WANT TO ATTEND
OUR MIDNIGHT DANCE PARTY?

THERE ARE LADIES LOOKING FOR YOU
WHO ..?
AT THIS HOUR.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU
WAIT.


THANK YOU FOR THE OTHER DAY, ICHIJOU-SAN.

Father
But this chair was a birthday gift from my parents so I just can't throw it
HEY, THIS ONE IS BROKEN, BUY A NEW ONE RIGHT AWAY!!!
Uhm
but...
But right now my favorite chair got a hole in it
Here's the hole
So easy!
Gee. My favorite dress I bought at Paris
WELL,
I KNOW IT'S SUDDEN BUT I WANT TO TELL YOU ABOUT MY MONTHLY WORK STYLE
MANGA'S RECIPE
There are times that I use too much time, but there are also times that I [need to] use them urgently
the most sensitive.
Storyboard (contents of the drawing) 1-3 days
Plot - (the story's frame work) 1-3 days
I'll write it all down
Not this, not that
Kneeling with the tops of the feet flat on the chair, and sitting on the soles.
And then, I'll put together the contents that piled up.
whoosh
whoosh
zoosh
I wasn't home much.
Before I do my work I go out and play, play, play to my hearts content.
I can only bear not seeing people for 5..7 days so I usually go to my sister's house to work or go out for a walk or get some groceries.
That's why I'm alone
slam
zoom
Sister's house
I'LL ASK FOR SOME
I need to buy some.
OH NO, WE'RE OUT OF MILK.
What I wanted to say is, I confine myself at home as much as I can, BUT
Rough sketch 5-7 days
Then I'll do the rough sketch
SOMEBODY PLEASE SAY SOME JOKES
WILL YOU MAKE THE SKY MORE CLEAR.
This part is also my favorite but since it's the last spot the specifies are kinda hard.
Finishing touches.
Background and Screen Tones - 1-2 days
And when the Manuscript is all done, were having a 'Dangerous Karaoke Contest'
END
And everybody's spirits are kinda watchy kuh
WITH YOUR SENSE
I know you can do it
WHY?
MAKE THIS DRESS LIKE AN 18TH CENTURY
YOUR IMAGI-NATION
And when my assistant-sama is here, strange incideuts occur
EH, EXORCIST? (*ONMYOUJI)
She means Kazuma*
MOCHI, THE DRESS PRINCE OMI WEARS
This is one of my favorite parts so this time, I really confine myself at home. The other day, my assistant-sama was here.
Drawing
Drawing - 3-5 days
OH, I SEE
YEAH, THAT'S IT.
It's sad being alone so I usually talk to myself

*The assistant said in Japanese "Kozou Ome-ouji no fukku (the dress Prince Ome wears)" and when the assistant said "Ome-ouji" she is referring to "Kazuma.

She shortened Kazuma's name to "Ome" and add "ouji" that means "prince" so she means "Prince Ome" but Mochida-sensei heard it as "Onmyouji" which means a sorcerer or exorcist. Get it? ^_^

Mayonaka ni Kiss

by Mochida Aki

Volume 01 Chapter 05

Scanner: Sylvie

Translator: Chache

Proofreader: Lenne

Editor: Blue Rose

QC-er: hkgaines

http://www.esthetique-realm.net

One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever
Shekyl Proofreader
Whisper
Whisper
Whisper
Rayn Translator
Kuhr
Kitsune Admin
FROZEN
Rose? Did you hear me?
WOBBLE
Oh, crap!
Kitsune-sama! Are you OK?
BONK!
What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?
Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did Shoujo manga cease to exist?
Oh, no! It was something much more sinister
STAFF SHORT-AGES!
SNAP!
HUGE PILES OF TRANSLATED CHAPTERS...
SPREAD THE NEWS, WE NEED NEW EDITORS AND QC-ERS STAT!
If you think you've got what it takes, contact us at esthetiquestaff@gmail.com.